

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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Cuban leader says that churches are more free

By Linda Fisher

"To my God, creator of all; to my church, which helps me spiritually; and to my church brethren."

He then quoted Scripture verses. The student's classmates were appalled, Gonzales said, because in Cuba students customarily dedicate such thesis to their teachers and schools.

They feared his work would be rejected. Yet the young man received the highest marks ever given for a thesis at the school.

Even delinquent youths are being affected by the Christian witness of Cuban Baptists, Gonzales said. In Havana, a factory worker left his job to minister full time among the young people in his rough neighborhood. He is being supported by some of the Baptist churches. Because he is from the area, he can speak the street language of the youth gangs. He has gained the respect of both the young people and the police and has intervened in conflicts between gangs.

Once police came upon a group of youths gathered on a hill at midnight. They prepared to make arrests, assuming a gang meeting was in progress. Then they realized everyone was on their knees in prayer and recognized Morales, the "preacher of peace," in their midst.

In Campechuela, Baptist pastor Vicente Navarro also has won high praise for his work with delinquent youths, Gonzales said. A policeman came to the church to congratulate

Navarro for his work and to ask the church to do even more. Young people involved in the church cease to be a problem on the streets, the policeman said.

During his three-week stay, Gonzales visited many of the same churches in northern Spain where he had preached 34 years before. He was accompanied by Julio Diaz Sanchez, pastor of the Baptist church of Bilbao, near Spain's northern coast.

The two men met during Gonzales' first trip, when Diaz was a new believer. Gonzales became a mentor to Diaz, and the two have kept up their friendship through correspondence over the years. Diaz and his wife visited Cuba in April 1988.

Both trips were financed by Samuel Moseley, an Alabama surgeon and member of First Baptist Church in Selma. Etna Moseley, the donor's grandmother, was an early missionary to Cuba.

In addition to his responsibilities as director of Western Cuba Baptist Seminary, Gonzales served 15 years as convention president and led three churches during 45 years of pastoral ministry. Born into a Baptist family, he was baptized at age 10. He attended seminary and the University of Havana simultaneously and later received a doctoral degree from the university.

Linda Fisher is press representative for Southern Baptist missionaries in South America. **SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES** Historical Commission, SBC Nashville, Tennessee

LERIDA, Spain (BP) — Baptists in Cuba have relatively more freedom today than in years past and have rebuilt 10 churches in the last five years, Cuban Baptist leader Luis Gonzales Pena told Spanish Baptists during a recent visit.

Gonzales, 75, directs the Baptist seminary in western Cuba. He last visited Spain in 1955 and said he had wanted to return ever since. Not until this year did he receive permission to make the trip. During his visit, Gonzales spoke of his excitement about the growing freedom Cuban Baptists are enjoying.

Materials for church buildings are more available now than before, he said, although church members must do the construction work themselves. They usually put in a "second shift" at church construction sites after leaving their regular jobs each day, he said.

Cuban young people are showing great spiritual hunger, Gonzales said. A recent youth retreat drew 450 young people from the churches of western Cuba.

Cuban youths are firm in their Christian convictions, he said, despite hardships their faith may create.

Gonzales told of one young couple who gave up secure jobs to enter the seminary, where they will live on one-fourth of the income they earned before.

A Baptist student dared to put a Christian emphasis into the dedication of his final thesis at graduation:

For a gift of \$6

to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, missionaries in Japan could purchase a packet of witnessing materials to use in training Japanese in how to witness.

National Goal: \$81 million

For a gift of \$300,000

to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, the Baptist mission in Tanzania, where ground travel is very difficult and time-consuming, could purchase a larger airplane to transport missionaries and Tanzanians to meetings and MKs to and from boarding school.

National Goal: \$81 million

For a gift of \$100

to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, missionaries in Japan could give Bibles to 12 Japanese people who might not otherwise have a Bible.

National Goal: \$81 million

For a gift of \$5,500

to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, missionaries in Ethiopia could fit pumps on new wells that are being dug in rural areas as part of a program to prevent future hunger disasters.

National Goal: \$81 million

Any church can pray — and give to Lottie Moon

'Praying for the Beja people has taken us to the Sahara'

By Susan Todd

WINTERS, Calif. — Something roaming the Sahara Desert has captured the attention and energy of a group of Californians.

Its movement and characteristics have become the topic of conversation — and prayer — at First Baptist Church, Winters.

Praying for a nomadic group of Sudanese — the Beja people — "has gotten us out of Winters, even though we never left town," said pastor Exter Hardy.

"We now have a kinship with the Beja people of Sudan, and none of us even know any of them," he said.

The Beja people group first came to the attention of the Winters church one year ago, Hardy said. After agreeing to pray for a people group or nation where there is little or no Christian witness, the 170-member church began to learn more and more about the Beja people.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board provided them with information such as:

— The Beja people are the third least-evangelized people group in the world.

— They are a nomadic group.

— There may be as few as 10 Christians among the 1,131,400 Beja people.

— For each Christian within the group, another 104,089 people have never heard the gospel of Jesus Christ.

— The Foreign Mission Board has no one assigned to work with the Beja, nor does any other Christian group, as far as mission leaders know.

Praying for a group of people on the other side of the world has had its effect on the congregation.

"I would describe our church as being much more missions minded" after one year of praying for the Beja people, Hardy said.

"Two years ago, we weren't aware of our need to evangelize Winters, much less the world."

Because their view of the world has changed, their view of the world news has changed, said church member

Amy Fannin. "When there's news about the Sudan, our ears perk up," she said.

The recent student uprising in China caught the attention of the church members in a way which wouldn't have happened a year ago, she said. Because they were used to listening to the news to learn things which would help them pray more intelligently, church members were sensitive to the needs to pray for Christians involved in the protests.

"One thing we've learned about praying is to pray for every aspect of the situation — leadership, educational opportunities, for God to open doors, she said.

"We've moved from praying, 'God, bless the Beja people of Sudan,' to praying for their specific situation."

Praying for the Beja people has also affected the church's financial contributions to missions.

"I've been here two and a half years," Hardy said. "Two years ago, the goals for the Lottie Moon

Christmas Offering (for Foreign Missions) and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (for Foreign Missions) were \$200 each. We increased both goals to \$500 the second year, and made it for both. We increased it to \$1,000 this last year and made it for Lottie, and came up \$50 shy for Annie.

"I credit some of that to praying for the Beja people."

The church has also made a commitment to participate in a missions partnership, Hardy said. "We'll be going to Milagro, Ecuador, next July. I don't think that would have been considered had we not been praying for the Beja people. Praying has kept us aware of our need to help evangelize the world."

Recently, 12 members of the church — ages 17 to 74 — made decisions to seek God's leadership to be involved in home or foreign missions, he said.

First Baptist Church, Winters, isn't the only church praying for a people group or nation unreached by the gospel.

More than 500 churches have participated in the three-year-old program sponsored by the Foreign Mission Board, said Terri Willis. Willis is associate director of the International Prayer Strategy Office, which heads up the program.

Other Southern Baptist churches can join in the program by calling the Foreign Mission Board at (804) 353-0151 ext. 552 and requesting a program application. The form must be completed and returned before a people group or nation will be assigned.

"The program is strictly for churches who have agreed as a congregation to pray for one year," Willis said. The program runs church year to church year, beginning in October. Even though the program for this year has already begun, churches may inquire about beginning late.

"We really want the pastor to lead the church to make the decision in a business meeting," Willis said.

Todd writes for WMU, SBC.

Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

It takes Lottie Moon

One stands amazed just outside the entrance to the subway at Shibuya Station in Tokyo as he watches the endless flow of people crossing the intersection of five or six streets. One loses track trying to figure out how many streets came into the intersection.

The lights change in some sort of sequence, and the automobiles creep through the intersection with two aims in the minds of the drivers. One is to get through the intersection without getting hit or hitting someone else. The other is to come out on the other side of the intersection in the right place.

As one watches, he wonders how either is ever accomplished; but he sees no accidents, and everyone seems to know where he is going.

Then suddenly the lights change again, and the people start across. From every direction they come. It's a tidal wave of humanity.

Perhaps it's only hundreds; but, seemingly, there are thousands of people in that intersection at any given time — almost day or night. In this case, no one worries about getting hit. All have their minds set on reaching the goal, which is the other side of the intersection; and all are moving steadfastly toward that goal. Somehow there are no major collisions. The word is that they don't make eye contact in order to be able to make a decision on zigging or zag-

ging. It's eyes straight ahead and move resolutely onward.

Though one might not necessarily be contemplating spiritual matters as he watches that horde of people on their way to wherever they are going, the thought jars the conscience anyway that less than one percent of those folks claim to be Christian under any kind of banner. If there were 500 people in that intersection, and that would be a conservative estimate at any time of day, then only five are Christians of any sort. If there are a thousand, a more likely guess, then there are no more than 10 Christians.

There would have to be 3,000 out there before one could know there was one Baptist in the crowd.

Our missionaries in Japan are faced with what seems to be an impossible task, but that's where we come in. What they need are our prayers in order to turn the impossible into the possible and our money in order to carry out the work.

This is the season for both. The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions is Dec. 3 to 10. Missionaries all over the world need to know that we are praying for them particularly during that week, but Mississippians now have a particular interest in the missionaries in Japan. We've been there and seen them at work. We've seen the fruits of their labors — a very dedicated and able force of Japanese

Baptists who want to see their islands turned into a crossroads for Christians much as their Shibuya station intersection is a crossroads of humanity.

It can be done. The Lord can do it. But he wants us to be interested in it too.

Then Dec. 3 to 10 is also the time for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions. It is interesting that on Christmas Eve of 1912, Lottie Moon died in Japan. She died on board a ship in the harbor at Kobe, Japan, as she was on her way home from China, where she had spent her resources and herself in spreading the gospel in that nation.

There are no legal barriers to the gospel in Japan. Missionaries and nationals are as free as can be to witness in any way and to seek converts to their persuasion. From the Christian standpoint, the people are the problem. They have so much that they are not aware of any needs. Some, however, and many are young people, are beginning to see that life cannot be affixed to a belief in things. They want something else. Perhaps the tide is beginning to turn.

But it takes money. It takes cars and lands and buildings and dwellings and equipment. It takes the Lottie Moon Offering.

This year the goal for the nation is \$81 million. That is about half of the total Foreign Mission Board budget, and it is desperately needed. Mis-

Lottie Moon . . .

Without the Lottie Moon Offering . . .

Without the Lottie Moon offering we couldn't have helped a 10-year old boy with half of his foot cut off by a sugar cane train. He came to us after being in a local hospital in Kediri, Indonesia. His foot was badly infected and he had a blood stream infection also. The Lottie Moon offering helped provide the penicillin, the hospital, and the doctors and nurses who saved this child's life and helped him walk again. He also accepted Jesus as his Savior.

Without the Lottie Moon offering, a young 17-year-old girl would have been isolated for life in a small shack behind her parent's house. The

disease of yaws had eaten away part of her nose and cheek. But because the Baptist Hospital and staff were there, she had plastic surgery and now has an acceptable face to present to the world and acceptable to present to Christ as she also came to know him.

These stories could be duplicated many hundreds of times for just that one hospital in Kediri. When this is added to the many other ministries of Baptist missionaries all over the world, the importance of the Lottie Moon offering comes clearly into focus.

— Dr. and Mrs. C. W. Applewhite

missionaries plan their work on what they believe they can expect from Lottie Moon funds.

They make the money count. Gene Hines, who wrote the mission study book on Japan, has just moved into a new house in western Tokyo in order to start a new church. He will start it in his house. It is a rent house. Buying is too expensive.

Mississippi has several representatives among the missionaries in Japan. The newest are the Tony Ludlows from Northwest Association. Hank Lee is from Tunica, and his wife

is from Hattiesburg. Charles and Mary Elizabeth Ray are from Greenwood. Rennie Sanderson Ohtani from Laurel is no longer a missionary, but she is involved in missions. There must be others, but those are the ones the Baptist Record contacted.

One hundred seven Mississippians have just returned from Japan. They know the need is there. It is all over the world.

The week of prayer and the Lottie Moon Offering are necessities.

This is how we fit into the Great Commission picture.

Guest opinion . . .

What if?

By Indy Whitten

In 1947, as we were preparing to go to the mission field, a group of Mississippi College students decided to form the "10 for 30 Club." That meant that each person would give 10 dollars a month for 30 years to support Charles as their missionary overseas.

We were inspired and encouraged, but after a few years the plan became inoperative because of distances and lack of coordination. The happy "rest of the story" is that all along the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering were our undergirding supports — not for 30 years but for 40 — in Argentina, Spain, Canary Islands, and Equatorial Guinea.

From Dr. M. T. Rankin, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, 1944-53, we understood that the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas offering are like parallel rails on a train track — without either rail the train would not function.

The "What Ifs" of life are interesting and have lessons for us as we review the past: What if Lottie Moon, a missionary in North China, had not urged that just before Christmas a week of prayer and offering for world missions be set apart? She asked for two Bible women, but the offering was enough for three.

What if Southern Baptists had failed to lift up their eyes and look on the white harvest field? We were named in 1947, and at that time there were some 525 missionaries on 19 fields. What if we had stayed at that point? In our world there are more than five billion people. Some 1.2 billion have never heard the gospel in any meaningful way. The need is imperative to commit our resources to making Bold Mission Thrust a reality. What if we lose sight of the objective?

And to be more personal: What if the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas offering had not existed during our 40 years of missionary service? First and foremost, it was our lifeline. We depended on prayer and money support for housing, transportation, medical expenses, the children's education, materials for our work, and financial assistance for buildings and other expenses in the national work.

The 1987 Christmas Offering fell short, and that indeed was sad news "heard around the world." The budgets of all the Missions had to be reduced by 12 percent. Many good and urgent programs had to be put on hold because of that shortfall. What rejoicing when the 1988 offering met the goal . . . an example to follow and exceed!

Retirement caught up with us after 40 years of active service. The trauma of our leaving was lessened by the full assurance that others would take our places with the same loving support. Yet there was a lingering "what if." What if some of the SBC grow weary and give less? Our Christian witness is already behind the pressing needs of a world without Jesus.

But there is a beautiful, very positive, "what if." What if the love of God so fills our hearts that caring and sharing will flow out to the ends of the earth? What if in this Christmas season our dedicated lives and open pocketbooks become totally involved in telling the Good News?

What if? Indy Whitten of Clinton is a retired missionary to Argentina, Spain, Canary Islands, and Equatorial Guinea.

N.E. ministry school opens

ORTHBORO, Mass. (BP) — When the Boston and Pittsburgh centers of the Northeast School of Ministry opened this fall, area Southern Baptist leaders saw their dream of ministry training in the region beginning to become a reality.

Roy Honeycutt, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and current chairman of the seminary presidents' council, said he sees the training centers as "brokering" a Master of Divinity degree for

Hymns Baptists sing . . .

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

By William J. Reynolds

Charles Wesley wrote this Christmas hymn the year following his conversion in 1738. The hymn reflects the joy he experienced at that time.

During his lifetime, he wrote not less than 6,500 hymns; but this hymn that is sung around the world at Christmastime may be the best known of all.

In his original version, Wesley did

not mention the angels in the opening line, but chose the Old English word "welkin," which means the vault of heaven, or the sky — "Hark! how all the welkin rings."

There is no one like Charles Wesley when it comes to filling a short hymn with an extraordinary amount of scriptural truth. He intended for all who sang these lines to understand more fully the redemptive and reconciling mission of Christ.

The dominant theme of the hymn is found in the fourth line of the first stanza: "God and sinners reconciled." The hymn is a masterpiece of theology stated in concise, terse lines.

In 1840, Felix Mendelssohn wrote a festive choral work for men's voices and brass instruments to commemorate the four-hundredth anniversary of the invention of printing.

Fifteen years later, William H. Cummings, an English musician, was struck by the fact that the melody from Mendelssohn's work was a perfect fit for Wesley's text.

William J. Reynolds is professor of church music at Southwestern Seminary.

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Thanks from Japan and South Carolina

Osamu Matsukura, executive secretary of the Japan Baptist Convention, has sent a letter to Bill Causey, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, in which he expressed his appreciation for the partnership effort that linked the two conventions in the observation of 100 years of Baptist work in Japan.

The letter, dated Oct. 15, was read at the recent Mississippi Baptist Convention.

It follows.
Dear Reverend Causey:

"The partnership evangelism meetings for which your convention and ours have prayed and planned for so long are now in progress. We want to thank you and the churches of your Mississippi Convention for answering our prayers by sending teams, providing for them, and praying for our work.

"We believe that through this team evangelism effort many Japanese people will have the opportunity to receive the rich blessings of Christ. Undoubtedly this partnership evangelism will help our Japan Baptist Convention toward the goal of '500 Churches and 50,000 Members by 2000 A.D.' For this we are grateful.

"We want to take this opportunity to convey our appreciation to you and others in your convention for your cooperation in making this possible. We pray that the blessings of Christ will be upon your convention, its churches, and you and your family."

Sincerely,
(Signed) Osamu Matsukura
Executive Secretary

Also read during the convention was a resolution from the General Board of the South Carolina Baptist Conven-

tion expressing appreciation for the work of Mississippians who went to that state with the Mississippi Baptist disaster van following the destruction of Hurricane Hugo.

That resolution was delivered to Paul Harrell, director of the Brotherhood Department for Mississippi Baptists, and to Jim Didlake, consultant in the department who was in charge of the work of the disaster van.

The resolution reads as follows:

"Whereas, Hurricane Hugo made landfall on the night of September 21, 1989 at Charleston, South Carolina, and

"Whereas, incalculable damage was left in its wake rendering helpless thousands of people in the devastated areas, and

"Whereas, in response to great human need, the Baptists from Mississippi responded by providing much needed assistance, and

"Whereas, in the process they modeled a compassionate, Christlike spirit providing a positive Christian witness,

"Be it therefore resolved, that the General Board in session on this the 10th day of October 1989 unanimously express gratitude to our brothers and sisters of the Mississippi Baptist Convention for their help in this time of disaster, and

"Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution of appreciation be sent to the Executive Director and the Editor of the state Baptist paper for communication to those who so unselfishly responded to our need."

(Signed) Robert L. Deneen
General Board President
(Signed) Ray P. Rust
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Missionaries to El Salvador safe after leftist attacks

By Mary E. Speidel

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (BP) — The three Southern Baptist missionary families in El Salvador escaped injury during widespread attacks by leftist rebels Nov. 11, although one of the families experienced a close call.

At least 127 people were killed in the fighting, according to Associated Press reports. Rebels attacked about a dozen locations across the country, including Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani's home in San Salvador, the country's capital city.

Southern Baptist missionaries John (Rusty) and Peggy Alums live near the president's home where guerrillas attacked Nov. 11. Attackers opened fire in the street in front of their home about 9 p.m., said Alums. They threw

hand grenades and other explosives.

The Alumses and their children — son John Jr., 15, and daughter Kelly, 6 — took cover in the stairwell of their two-story town house. "We weren't the target of the aggression," said Alums, "but it was a long night... a time when you really seek to confirm and reaffirm your faith."

Alums directs the three Baptist bookstores in El Salvador. The bookstore in San Salvador was closed Nov. 13, but the building sustained no damage.

Baptist churches canceled services during the Nov. 11-12 weekend, reported Southern Baptist missionary Bill Stennett, who was to have baptized several new converts at Nazareth Baptist Church in Santa Tecla.

The Stennetts, who also live in San Salvador, heard fighting during the night but "we were not in any immediate danger," he said.

The other missionary couple — Sam and Margaret Drummond of Camden, Tenn., and Louisville, Ky., respectively — reportedly were safe in Santa Ana. They are professors at Baptist Theological Institute in that city. Mrs. Drummond is the daughter of Charles and Indy Whitten, Clinton, Miss.

Stennett reported he had heard some fighting still was going on north of San Salvador Nov. 13. "We're hoping that today will be the last day of it," he said.

Name changes for Japan

The four who were a part of the second wave of Mississippians who went to Japan from Calvary Church, Jackson, were Norman Chappell, Gil Powell, and Jim Street going to Kitakata Baptist Church and Clarence Lentz going to Oita Baptist Church. A previous list had indicated that Lynda Street and Linda Stubblefield of Calvary Church had gone to Kitakata Church.

Norman Chappell and Clarence Lentz were not on original lists.

The Second Front Page

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, November 30, 1989

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Southern Baptist volunteers, helicopter leaving Ethiopia

By Craig Bird

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (BP) — Continued fighting in Ethiopia has forced shifts in the Southern Baptist missionary personnel and property assigned to that country.

Most news reports place fighting between Ethiopian government troops and Tigre People's Liberation Front forces about 100 miles north of Addis Ababa.

Southern Baptist missionaries and volunteers left their posts and gathered in the capital city Oct. 19 but apparently face no danger there.

However, Southern Baptist work is concentrated in the very areas where the two armies are fighting, and an early opportunity to return and renew the work appears unlikely.

"Basically we are looking for places to transfer volunteers to other areas where they can be productive," said Jim Houser, a Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board administrator for eastern and southern Africa. "In a few other cases, volunteers who are near completion of their terms are going home a little bit early."

No career missionaries are being transferred, however. Jerry and Rosie Bedsole of Foley, Ala., and Splitlog, Mo., respectively, the senior Southern Baptist missionaries in the country, are due back in Addis Ababa in December after a U.S. furlough. Another career couple, Jeff and Margie Pearson of Mora, Minn., returned to Ethiopia recently from Yemen. Mrs. Pearson was in Yemen on maternity leave when the missionaries, including her husband, were evacuated to Addis Ababa. Pearson joined her there for the birth of their second child.

Career missionaries Rob and Patricia Ackerman of Wheaton, Ill., and Albuquerque, N.M., respectively, are in Nairobi, Kenya, awaiting work permits for Ethiopia. They will go on to Addis Ababa as soon as the permits are granted "unless the situation heats up," Houser said. Ackerman will be business manager for the Southern

Baptist mission organization of Ethiopia.

Four volunteers will be leaving Ethiopia soon. Nurse Barbara Steer of Santee, Calif., and Baptist guesthouse managers Jewel and Jeanne Franks of Fort Worth, Texas, will return to the United States about one month earlier than planned. Steer was to arrive in Nairobi Nov. 15 enroute home and the Frankses were to follow Dec. 1. Charles Edwards of Starkville, Miss., had just arrived in Ethiopia to work as a veterinarian for two months. But he never got to leave the capital because of the fighting. He is transferring to Tanzania to work with missionary veterinarian John Crews.

Journeyman nurse Sandy Shell of Millbrook, Ala., will transfer to Kenya to work at the Baptist clinic in Mathare Valley if her request for a Kenyan work permit is approved. She arrived in Ethiopia during the summer of 1988 for a planned two-year stay.

Journeyman Burt Rudolph of Davis, Calif., a water development engineer who was only a few months into his two-year assignment, will complete his stint in Malawi. George Tupper, a journeyman from Memphis, Tenn., has completed almost 20 months of his two-year term as an agricultural development worker. His future plans still are undecided.

Missionaries remaining in Ethiopia include Paul and Hannah Gay of Cuthbert, Ga., and Jackson, Miss., respectively; John and Mary Lou Lawrence of Jonesboro, La., and Harrisonville, Mo., respectively; and Howard and Belinda Rhoades of Friona, Texas.

The most valuable single piece of mission property, a helicopter, will be flown from Addis Ababa to Nairobi when permission is granted from the Kenyan government. Mission officials began seeking government approval to remove the craft the day after Bap-

tist personnel were evacuated from the highlands because of the fighting. The helicopter was used to provide quick access to feeding and development stations in the highlands, where the fighting is most intense.

The fate of other mission property — primarily grain stores, buildings and furnishings at the Baptist relief stations in Alem Ketema, Rabel, Shil Afaf, Gundo Muskel, Mehal Meda and Meragna — is unclear.

Both armies reportedly have seized property in the areas they control. However, both the Tigre People's Liberation Front and the the Ethiopian government have requested inventories of property at the stations from the Baptist mission officials — apparently as a basis for restitution.

The TPLF also has invited Baptist mission personnel to return to the areas it controls and resume development work with the assurance that missionaries would be welcome. But missionaries feel the situation at this time is too unstable for them to return.

Peace talks between the TPLF and the Ethiopian government have begun in Italy, but no cease-fire has resulted. TPLF leaders said Nov. 7 they had captured the district around Mehal Meda — the first time the rebels have claimed to control territory outside Tigre Province. Mehal Meda's population is composed of Amhara people, the ethnic group that traditionally has ruled Ethiopia. The Ethiopian government has not commented on the claim.

The TPLF declined to participate in earlier peace talks between the government and another rebel group, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, sponsored by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. The two opposition groups formed a loose coalition several months ago, but they have maintained different objectives during more than two decades of internal strife.

Child-care legislation stalled

By Kathy Palen

WASHINGTON (BP) — Action on proposed federal child-care legislation has been postponed until next year, congressional sources have said.

The House Democratic leadership was unable to work out a compromise between members of two House committees on legislation being considered by a House-Senate conference committee.

In October, the House passed a comprehensive child-care measure that included plans designed by the Education, and Labor and the Ways and Means committees. At that time, sponsors of the two plans were unable

to agree on how to provide federal funding for child-care services.

The Labor and Education Committee supported establishing a new grant program to provide funds for day-care programs for children under age 13.

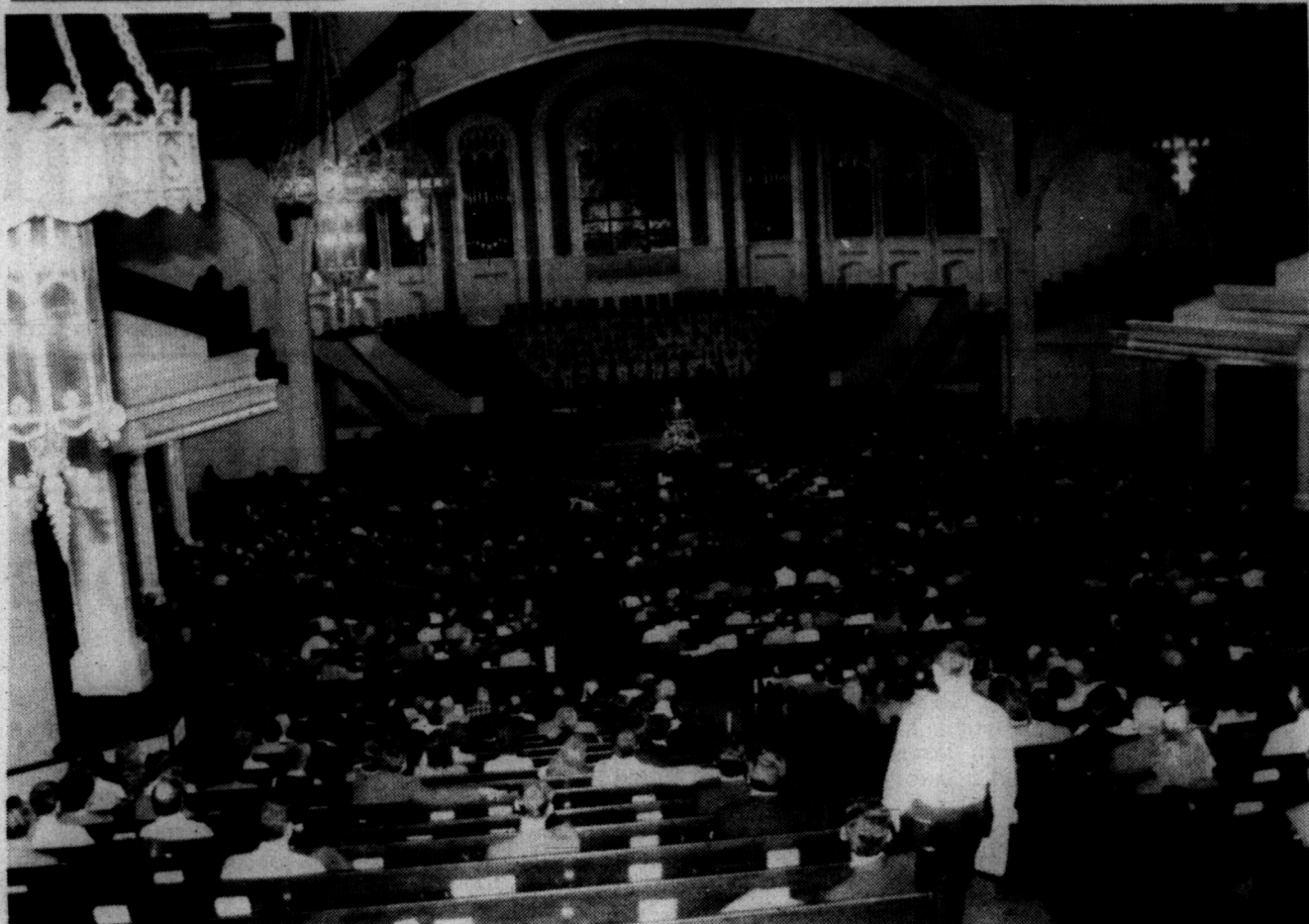
The funding would have been distributed through the states, which in turn would have given the funds to eligible child-care providers.

But the Ways and Means Committee advocated increasing existing block grants to states. The grants would have been earmarked for child care and could not have been used to

take the place of federal and state funds already being used for that purpose.

House leaders feared an amendment that was to be offered on the floor by Rep. Thomas J. Tauke, R-Iowa, in support of the block grant approach would divide House Democrats and lead to a major floor fight, sources said.

When Congress returns in January, the House is expected to resume efforts to work out a compromise child-care measure, which then will have to be reconciled with legislation already approved by the Senate.



Mississippi Baptist Convention meets in the new sanctuary of First Church, Jackson.



Tom Vinson

Behind the pulpit at the convention

Photos by Tim Nicholas



Bill O'Brien



Don Wilton



Bill Causey



E. V. Hill

Causey calls preachers back to the Bible

By Tim Nicholas

The new executive director treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board called preachers back to the Bible in his message during the Mississippi Baptist Convention in Jackson.

Bill Causey, elected earlier this year as head of the convention board, was one of several speakers during the convention. Others included Tommy Vinson, pastor of Crossgates Church, Brandon, who delivered the annual sermon; Bill O'Brien, an assistant to the president of the Foreign Mission Board; E.V. Hill, pastor of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Los Angeles; and Don Wilton, professor of preaching at New Orleans Seminary.

"It's time for our preachers to get back to the Bible and not be a psychologist or historian or wheeler dealer man," said Causey. "God honors his Word."

Causey interpreted what laypersons and preachers are saying about one another. To laymen, he said, "Start looking to Jesus and not us. And

another thing, please don't bring this junior executive mentality into the church. It's killing us." Causey said this is where one says to the pastor "we're going to set these goals and if they don't happen, you're gone." Causey said that saving souls is the business of the Holy Spirit and that witnessing is the business of the preacher, "not organization or motivations or gimmicks."

Causey said laymen are saying to preachers, "If you'll let me know, I'll be glad to help you . . . we are called of God, too."

Laypersons are also asking their ministers to "please have integrity in words and money so if you foul up I won't look like a fool if I followed you."

Causey spoke of the upheaval in the world and in the denomination. "What's happening to us? The children come running in and say we're hungry and we say, I'll tell you what let's do, let's remodel the kitchen. Somebody rushes in and says the house is on fire and the children are about to catch on

fire and we want to stand out there and discuss whether fire is really hot or whether in some philosophical way fire might not be so hot.

"And people come screaming to us who are supposed to have God's answer and they say wait a minute, I need to tell you that my family is falling apart and my child is about to lose his or her life from alcohol or drugs. You say I'll tell you what to do. You need to take a study course."

Causey said Southern Baptists have 4,000 missionaries overseas "and we decide to cut the Cooperative Program lifeline to them so we can play basketball in our new gym." He said the denomination is a "rather fragile arrangement." He spoke of the downfall of Nixon and the downfall of a number of families, and the downfall of Communist governments. He mentioned a Virginia Baptist memorial to the SBC Executive Committee saying it is considering changing its method of Cooperative Program giving. "How many states would

have to raise that serious question for the Southern Baptist Convention to fall apart?

"Grown people are not permanently and forever going to take the attacks upon each other that have been coming. What is happening to us? That one preacher can raise questions about another preacher about the word of God or about any other kind of thing when here is somebody out there literally giving his life, he says, for Jesus."

He said "Let's don't forget that we are fragile vessels and that the treasure is what is important and the treasure is the living Jesus in us." He said he wondered what would happen if everyone in the auditorium would say that for one month they would only preach the Bible and pray and witness. "What do you think would happen?" he asked.

Causey told of some of the plans he has for the convention board itself. He wants a prayer room at the Baptist Building with someone in there pray-

ing at all times. He wants a map in the building depicting where Mississippi missionaries are serving. And he wants a committee of Christian lawyers to respond to legal issues of interest to the convention.

Causey said the convention board employees have said "We think our job is helping to win Mississippi and the world to Jesus."

He noted, "I want to see us take everything we've got and we want to focus it until every child of God is a minister until every church is a seminary and our denomination is an army and every challenge from anybody is a call to war and every wound that we get in the process is a badge of honor and the entire world is a field of conquest for our Lord and the whole world is aflame with the news that Jesus is alive."

Causey said his question is "Can we come back to Jesus?" He responded "From this multi-million dollar facility to the clapboard one room church

(Continued on page 5)

MBC adopts resolutions

Report of Resolutions Committee

We do not feel it necessary to reaffirm the positions of Mississippi Baptists on many issues where our positions are well known and established. We feel that Mississippi Baptists can have a greater impact by speaking to a limited number of the issues which are most relevant at this time.

(Signed: Joe H. Tuten, chairman; other committee members are Mrs. Harry Vickery, Glenn Callaway, Andy Taggart, Mrs. James Fancher, Charles Pickering, and Bob Storie.)

No. 1

RESOLUTION ON THE LOTTERY

WHEREAS, Mississippi Baptists strongly support improving the quality of education in Mississippi, and

WHEREAS, it has been proposed to legalize a state-operated lottery in order to raise funding for education, and

WHEREAS, a lottery is an inefficient and unstable revenue source which we believe will not produce the revenue projected, and

WHEREAS, funding education through a lottery teaches our children and youth amoral values and erodes the concept of the work ethic; and

WHEREAS, a state-operated lottery will transfer the financial costs for education from those most able to pay for education to those least able to pay for education, and will take away funds which many families need for the necessities of life and, thus, compete with private businesses for consumer dollars,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mississippi Baptist Convention strongly endorses improving the quality of education in Mississippi;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mississippi Baptist Convention vigorously opposes a state-operated lottery and any action taken to accomplish this; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge all Mississippi Baptists to make known to their legislators and the governor their vigorous opposition regarding any attempt to raise funding through a state-operated lottery.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that we as Mississippi Baptists covenant to seek and encourage creative and innovative ways to raise legitimate revenue for the purpose of developing an effective educational system for our beloved state.

No. 2

RESOLUTION ON BAPTIST PRESS

WHEREAS, the Bible teaches that each person is created in the image of God and a cardinal and vital belief of Baptists is that each person individually is free and responsible under God in thought, expression and action; and

WHEREAS, Baptists historically have encouraged and supported a free press and have rejected all efforts to intimidate the free press; and

WHEREAS, Baptist Press is the entity responsible for reporting the news regarding the activities of Baptist bodies and their agencies and institutions in a fair and responsible manner to our state Baptist papers and thus to individual Baptists as well as to the secular press;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that we, the messengers to the Mississippi Baptist Convention, meeting at the First Baptist Church of Jackson, Mississippi, November 13-15, 1989, respectfully urge the exer-

cise of utmost care to assure all personnel of BAPTIST PRESS that they are to pursue their tasks in an atmosphere in keeping with our time-honored and cherished position of freedom of the press, and that copies of this resolution be sent to each member of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee.

No. 3

RESOLUTION ON THE BAPTIST JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WHEREAS the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs has been a much-talked-about and controversial entity in our Southern Baptist Convention, and

WHEREAS, the talk in our Southern Baptist Convention has often been divisive, and

WHEREAS, this 1989 Mississippi Baptist Convention has been characterized by love and unity,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we express our desire to leave this matter in the hands of those who are charged with trying to resolve the conflicts, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit ourselves to pray for God's direction and resolution of all conflicts.

No. 4

RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING SERVICE

WHEREAS, Dr. Earl Kelly has served the Mississippi Baptist Convention as Executive Director-Treasurer for a period of sixteen years, from 1973 until 1989, and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Paul N. Nunnery has served The Baptist Children's Village, a child-care institution of this Convention, as Executive Director for a period of twenty-nine years, from 1960 until 1989, and

WHEREAS, Dr. J. Ralph Noonkester has served William Carey College, an educational institution of this Convention, as President for a period of thirty-three years, from 1956 until 1989, and

WHEREAS, each of these three persons is retiring this year from his respective post of service within the fellowship of our Convention,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers to this One Hundred Fifty-Fourth annual session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, acknowledge with gratitude the long period of service, a combined service totaling seventy-eight years, of these Christian brethren and Baptist leaders; that we express to them our love; and that we wish and pray for them good health, long life, fulfillment and joy in continued service in the Lord's vineyard; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that we assure their successors in office of our trust, prayers and support as the mantle of responsibility and leadership in these posts of Christian service fall upon them.

No. 5

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, the One Hundred Fifty-Fourth annual session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention has been beneficiary of the gracious hospitality of the First Baptist Church of Jackson at an historic moment in the life of this blessed church in meeting in this beautifully and newly renovated house of worship, and

WHEREAS, we the messengers of this One Hundred Fifty-Fourth annual session, have been blessed, guided

and challenged by the informative and inspirational program planned by the Committee on Order of Business, the institutions and agencies of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and the several officers and committees,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we express grateful appreciation to:

1. Dr. Frank Pollard, Pastor, the members and staff of the First Baptist Church of Jackson;

2. The speakers, singers and instrumentalists who led us in worship during the Convention;

3. Dr. Jim Futral, our Convention President, who has led us for the second year with dignity and in a spirit of unity and purpose;

4. All the officers, members of all boards, trustees of all agencies and institutions, committee members and volunteers who have served this Convention faithfully as a labor of love; and

5. Above all, to God our Father, Christ Jesus our Lord, and the blessed Holy Spirit our Helper who give us salvation, ministry and hope both now and evermore.

Memorials Report

DECEASED MINISTERS

October 1, 1988 - September 30, 1989

ADAMS

Rev. Joe Hudson, Sr.
Rev. H. L. Weeks

BOLIVAR

Rev. Harry Wilburn

CHOCTAW

Gerald Blanton

COVINGTON

Rev. B. O. Patterson

GULF COAST

Rev. W. T. Miller

HINDS-MADISON

Rev. Barney Walker
Rev. Roy Collum
Rev. William P. Davis
Rev. Gene Stockstill

JACKSON

Rev. Harold Shrauger

JONES

Rev. V. J. (Varney) Moss
Dr. John Barrow

LAUDERDALE

Rev. Leonard Fairchild

LEBANON

Rev. Van C. Windham
Rev. W. C. Rainey

LEE

Rev. Rupert Golding
Rev. Price Edwards
Rev. L. C. Edwards

NEW CHOCTAW

Rev. Clay Gibson
Rev. Hugh Isaac

NORTHWEST

Rev. John Lawler

PIKE

Rev. Fred Bolian

SMITH

Rev. John Walters
Rev. Byron Stringer

UNION COUNTY

Rev. Larry Maxey

WINSTON

Rev. Ellis Richardson

YALOBUSHA

Rev. J. A. Dollahite
Rev. Paul Kihnl

Court to decide if parents can deduct contributions

By Kathy Palen

WASHINGTON (BP) — The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear a case testing whether parents who contributed directly to their missionary sons may deduct that money as a charitable contribution.

Harold and Enid Davis, a Mormon couple from Idaho, provided financial support in 1980 and 1981 for two of their sons who were selected as missionaries by the Mormon Church. When the couple attempted to deduct the money as charitable contributions, the Internal Revenue Service rejected their claim.

A federal district court denied the deductions, holding that a donation should not be considered "for the use of" a church — as required under federal tax law — unless the church exercises control amounting to "possession of the contribution."

In the case in question, the court said, the "particular use to which the

funds were put was solely within the power of the missionary."

The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the district court's ruling. In its opinion, the appeals panel said the federal tax system "does not provide for a deduction by a taxpayer who does not actually render service to the charity or make a contribution directly to the charity."

In appealing to the Supreme Court, the Davises' attorney argued the couple's intent in making their contributions was "to benefit the religious and charitable work of the church."

The Mormon Church routinely asks the family of each of its missionaries to contribute the necessary financing for that missionary, wrote Washington attorney Rex E. Lee. The church also prefers that the donor send the funds directly to the missionary, rather than through the church, he said.

Causey calls preachers . . .

(Continued from page 4)

with home made pews, if they love Jesus they can be a Baptist. From the open country to the urban centers and the capitol, if they love Jesus they can be a Baptist. From the well educated, if he loves Jesus, to the completely unschooled, who may love Jesus, they can be a Baptist. From the culturally elite to the culturally deprived they can be Baptist. From the dogmatic declarer of biblical truth with no compromise to the polished orator, if they love Jesus, they can be a Baptist. From the social activist to the one on one evangelist, that's who we are. From the family altar to stadium evangelism, that's who we are. From the Sunday School class to private Bible study, from areas influenced by Primitive Baptists and Landmarkism, we are still Baptist. And from the complicated business of our convention down to a little child's story time, if it's done in the love of Jesus, it can be Baptist. Whether you are a genius or retarded, from the executive to a bus child, if you love Jesus you can be a Baptist."

Tommy Vinson spoke of lessons to be learned when Jesus washes feet — from John 13. He said Christians need to do what Jesus did "demonstrate the

ideal of a ministry — that of a shepherd." He said the footwashing does not constitute an ordinance, he believes, but instead, "obligates us to meet whatever practical need exists."

Bill O'Brien told of a friend who had heart surgery and paralleled the conversation that friend had with the surgeon with one a person could have with God. The man asked if he was going to get better and the surgeon said yes. "What about the quality of my life?" he asked. The surgeon said and the Lord might say to us, "I fixed your heart, the quality is up to you."

E.V. Hill gave his reasons for accepting Jesus Christ as his savior. He said he wanted to escape hell and that I hear he has a kingdom and there is no lack of nothing. In that kingdom whatever is wrong here is right there. I hear whatever my potentials are heaven will afford me my opportunity."

Don Wilton, who spoke each session, talked about proper preaching. He said preachers must "preach the uncompromising message" the forefathers preached. And he said "If you preach a sermon and you don't mention the name Jesus Christ, you know what the Bible says about that: Foey."

HMB

HOME MISSION BOARD, SBC

\$7,500,000

SERIES E

CHURCH LOAN COLLATERALIZED BONDS

Proceeds from the sale of the Bonds, along with other available funds of Home Mission Board, will be used to make direct loans to Baptist churches affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention for the financing of sites and the construction of buildings in keeping with the Bold Mission Thrust emphasis of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Interest on the Bonds will be payable semi-annually. The Bonds will be offered with maturity dates varying from twelve months to fifteen years and the interest rate will vary from 8.5% to 11% depending upon the maturity date as set forth in the Prospectus. Minimum purchase is \$500.00.

Copies of the Prospectus may be obtained by calling or writing:

HOME MISSION BOARD, SBC

ATTENTION: CHURCH LOANS DIVISION

1350 Spring Street, NW; Atlanta, GA 30367

1-800-HMB-BOND (462-2663)

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of offers to buy any of these securities. The offering is made only by Prospectus.

Please send a copy of the prospectus for the Series E issue of Home Mission Board Church Loan Collateralized Bonds.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Everley Hayes in coma following accident

By Marty Croll

SALISBURY, Md. (BP) — Retired Southern Baptist missionary nurse Everley Hayes remains in a coma following a fall after Sunday morning worship in Salisbury, Md., Oct. 22.

Hayes is known for working in China with her famous missionary colleague, physician Bill Wallace. She identified his body and helped bury it after he died in a Chinese communist prison in 1951. She later was confined by the communists for eight months before leaving China. She went on to work for 30 years as a nurse in Indonesia and retired in 1983.

Hayes, 73, was descending stairs from the Allen Memorial Baptist Church choir loft when she fell, fracturing her skull. That evening a neurosurgeon removed two blood clots from her brain, and she has been unconscious since then in intensive care at a Salisbury hospital, said her sister, Eunice Ruark.

Hayes had shown no sign of response until Nov. 5, when she began moving her eyes at the mention of her name, Ruark said. She is in critical but stable condition and is receiving assistance in breathing. Doctors are making no prognosis, Ruark said.

Hayes, of Salisbury, was appointed a missionary to China in 1947. She joined the staff of the Baptist hospital in Wuchow and worked closely with Wallace as director of nursing. They continued to work in comparative freedom after the communist victory in China in 1949, until Wallace was arrested in late 1950. Wallace is believed to have been executed in the communist prison.

For about eight months under house arrest by the communists, Hayes was not allowed to work. She filled her time by studying the Bible, practicing piano, piecing together a quilt, preparing a series of lectures and reading detective stories. She credits that experience with drawing her closer to God.

After leaving China, Hayes was one of three women missionaries who laid the foundation for Southern Baptist medical missions in Indonesia. Although told by an Indonesian official that "a man must open your medical work," she and her companions remodeled a building, set up equipment and procedures, trained nurses' aides and started a clinic before the first male missionary doctor finished language study and their work "officially" opened. Later she was director of nurses at a second Baptist hospital in Indonesia.

Just weeks before her accident, Hayes and Ruark attended a Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board meeting in Richmond, Va., where she talked with a new missionary doctor being appointed to work in Indonesia. The doctor, Ronald White of Little Rock, Ark., will work in a Baptist hospital there.

White told Hayes that reading a book about Bill Wallace helped him to make a missions commitment, Ruark said.

"Everley was so excited about meeting a new doctor going to Indonesia, because that was where her love was," Ruark added.

MC will present opera

The Opera Workshop at Mississippi College will present "Amahl and the Night Visitors," in Aven Auditorium, on Monday, Dec. 4, at 8 p.m. Gerald Claxton, assistant professor of music, assisted by Carol Joy Sparkman, part-time instructor in music, are giving direction to the all-student cast. The opera is composed by Menotti.

Reservations can be made by call-

ing 925-3440 or 925-3230. General admission tickets are \$5 with student and senior adult tickets, \$3.

Students playing leading roles are Amy Barrett, Mendenhall; Melody Starling, Walnut Grove; Joe Elliot, Brookhaven; Kevin Crain, Florence; Joe Daniels, Jackson; and Robert Toney, Jackson.

Festival of Lights is scheduled

Mississippi College Department of Music will present it performing ensembles in a "Festival of Lights" on Thurs., Dec. 7, at 8 p.m. in Spell Auditorium of Provine Chapel on campus.

This year's festival will feature the John Rutter "Gloria," and will be performed by the concert choir and accompanied by The Capitol Brass. The

Bishops urge, "teach chastity"

NEW YORK, New York (EP) — Chastity is the best way to prevent AIDS, and that's what public schools should teach, said a committee of Roman Catholic bishops, who urged schools not to promote condom use as a way for preventing AIDS.

"There is no such thing as safe, or safer, sex. That is an illusion," wrote Archbishop Roger Mahony of Los Angeles, chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee, which prepared an HIV Statement. HIV is the name of the

virus which causes AIDS.

The bishops hope that the statement will be used in place of a 1987 statement which was drafted by the 50-member Administrative Board of the U.S. Roman Catholic Church. That initial statement said the church would tolerate public schools educating students about condoms as long as sexual abstinence before marriage was presented as the "only morally correct and medically sure way" to prevent AIDS.



Savage

Coats

Models for Metropolitan Ministry Event is planned

A Models for Metropolitan Ministry Event will be held at the Sheraton Inn North, Jackson, on Dec. 11-13. The Urban Training Cooperative Event is



Smith

sponsored by the Home Mission Board, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and Hinds-Madison Baptist Association. The seminar will share insights and practical approaches to building an effective church in an urban setting. Models of ministry will be presented in deaf, language, international, Black Church Extension, lifestyle evangelism, and ministry to missing members.

Conference leaders will include Joseph Coats, pastor of Glendale Baptist Church, Miami, Fla.; John Savage, president of L.E.A.D. Consultants, Inc.; and Ebbie Smith, professor of Christian Ethics and Missions, Southwestern Seminary.

Persons interested in attending should mail a \$20 registration fee (includes two meals) to Hinds-Madison Baptist Association, 6530 Dogwood View Parkway, Jackson, MS 39213, or phone 362-8676.

Lodging reservations should be made directly to the hotel. Rates are \$35. Call Sheraton Inn North, 1 55 North at Northside Drive, Jackson, MS (601) 982-1044.

Names in the news



Kenna Byrd, (left) pastor of Hurley Church, is pictured presenting plaques of distinction and honor to two members. Mrs. Lozelle Williamson, a charter member, was given a plaque in recognition of her service as church clerk. She is retiring as church clerk after 26 years of service. Charles C. Ely, was honored with a life-time deaconship with all rights and privileges of an active deacon.

Staff changes

Paul R. Jordan has resigned as pastor of Mount Zion Church (Leake), and is available for pastorate, interim, or supply. He can be contacted at Rt. 1, Box 264, Walnut Grove, MS 39189, or phone 253-2196.

Ken Pickens recently resigned Grace Church in Vicksburg. He is available for supply or interim, and would consider bivocational or full-time pastorate. He can be contacted at Rt. 7, Box 70, Tupelo, MS 38801, or telephone 842-0547.

Straight Bayou Church, Straight Bayou, has called Brad Banks as pastor, effective Nov. 5. A native of Arkansas, he received his education at Criswell College, Dallas, and Mid-America Seminary, Memphis. His previous place of service was First Church, Fisherville, Tenn.

Pleasant Ridge Church, Woodland, has called Barron Pilgrim of Philadelphia as pastor, effective Oct. 10. His previous place of service was Coldwater Church, Philadelphia. He received his education at Clarke College and Blue Mountain College.

Terry's Creek Church, Magnolia, has called Joel Tilson of Marysville, Tenn., as music and youth director, effective Nov. 22. His previous place of service was Mt. Harmony Church, Knoxville, Tenn. He received his education at Carson-Newman College and is a student at New Orleans Seminary.

Kenneth E. Walters, a native of Scott County, has accepted the pastorate of Southside Church, Aberdeen (Monroe Association). He is a graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary. He moved from Nineteenth Ave., Hattiesburg. Southside Church welcomed him with an old-fashioned pounding, and a reception is planned for Dec. 3.

Greenfield Church, Greenville, has called Jim Holcomb, of Pulaski, as pastor. A native of Memphis, he received his education at New Orleans Seminary.

Blythe Creek Church, in Choctaw Association, called Olyn F. Roberts as pastor, effective Dec. 1. His previous

position has been that of director of missions for Adams-Union Baptist Associations, with the office being located in Natchez. His new address is Route 2 Box 298, Mathiston, MS 39752 (Phone: 601-263-4886).

Roberts also directs construction missions to Alaska and needs about 50 more men and women for Anchorage, July 9-21, 1990, at an approximate cost of \$750.00 each.

W. Levon Moore is interim pastor of McAdams Church, Attala County.

Suzanne Bigelow is music director for Second Church, Kosciusko. She is a student at Mississippi State.

Dale Nowell is the new pastor of Providence Church, Attala County. He was ordained to the gospel ministry by Jerusalem Church on Nov. 5, Sam Ray, pastor.

Jack Nazary has accepted Yockanookany Church, Attala County, and began serving the first Sunday in November.

Dwight Brown has resigned Ethel Church effective the last of November. He has been called to Big Creek Church in Calhoun Association.

Allen elected new chairman, Baptists Committed to SBC

By Ken Camp

DALLAS (BP) — Jimmy Allen, former president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, was elected chairman of Baptists Committed to the Southern Baptist Convention by the organization's 18-member executive committee on Nov. 16.

Allen succeeds Winfred Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church of Amarillo, Texas, who became honorary chairman of Baptists Committed and will continue to serve on the group's executive committee.

Assuming the reins of the self-proclaimed "mainstream centrist" organization at a press conference at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, Allen expressed his desire to help bring Southern Baptists "back to the center of the road" in a renewed commitment to missions.

"The last 10 years have been unhappy times for Southern Baptists," he said. "We need to come back to the central kind of commitments to missions, evangelism and ministry which have held us together. It is my hope we can see a great coming together of Southern Baptists around our historic positions."

Allen, 62, who now is president of Faith and Family Communications Inc. in Fort Worth, Texas, a religious television network and home shopping service, said he purposely kept a "low profile" during his time at the helm of the RTVC and the ACTS network. "I felt that as I was working with the

agency board and trying to fashion this new network (ACTS), that I didn't want it to become the center of the political controversy. It was not stabilized enough as a new enterprise for that. So I initiated to my board a statement that I was going to take a low profile," he said.

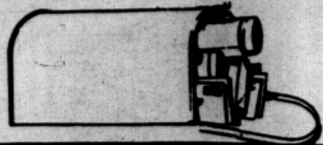
Allen expressed sadness concerning the "harassment" of SBC agency heads and the expediency of their remaining silent about the on-going controversy within the convention.

"I think it's a lamentable fact that the days when our agency heads were leaders in the Baptist enterprise — the days when we could elect agency heads as presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention and look to them for leadership — have now become historic relics," he said.

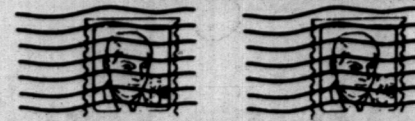
"We have rather systematically stripped ourselves of some of the finest voices that we might have to lead us when we have decided to treat agency leadership as hired hands instead of as leaders."

Allen said Southern Baptists need to "affirm the Bible by living the Bible" and by rejecting the use of "secular political methods and power tactics sowing seeds of distrust within a family of faith."

We do not quite forgive a giver. The hand that feeds us is in some danger of being bitten. — Ralph Waldo Emerson



Letters to the editor



Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld. The withholding of names will be at the discretion of the editor.

Why give up Scrapbook?

Editor:
It was with dismay, that I read the footnote in last week's issue of the Baptist Record that the "Scrapbook" was to be discontinued due to lack of space.

I have, through the years, been uplifted and blessed by the beautiful poems in the "Scrapbook" expressing praise of our Lord. In fact, there are several that I have carried in my Bible for a number of years, and I have read them time after time.

If at all possible, please keep the "Scrapbook" an active part of our Baptist Record. It's a ministry all its own.

Betty Rose
Winona

The use of weekly baptismal reports is being planned for the BAPTIST RECORD. In order to try to aid the budget cause, the BAPTIST RECORD has cut its space 25 percent from earlier times. Thus space is critical; and when something new comes in, something has to be removed to make room. — Editor

Congratulations to Edwards

Editor:
My congratulations to Dr. James Edwards on his selection as President of William Carey College.

Dr. Edwards has been used of God to bring stability and unity to Carey College. Dr. Edwards has demonstrated that he is a man of exceptional abilities, a very hard worker and a leader who is genuinely concerned about those who are affected by his leadership.

The Lord has used Dr. Edwards and others to preserve William Carey during a potentially devastating period. There are still many problems and many issues which must be addressed. The future will not be easy, but those who are concerned about Carey can draw comfort from the fact that God's man to lead Carey is now in place and is busy doing the task that God has laid before him.

I urge Mississippi Baptists to pray for Dr. Edwards and Carey; as well as for each of our Baptist Colleges and their leadership.

Jeff Rimes
William Carey College

Halloween propaganda

Editor:
The week before Halloween I was visiting some of my church members who were patients of the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center in Jackson. Spotlights in every direction, the hallways, the cafeteria, and even being sold in the gift shop was Halloween propaganda.

Space in this section of your newspaper would not allow me to indoctrinate your readers of the deadly dangers of deifying Satan on this hellish night, but I pray that God-called men will stand in the gap and sound the alarm denouncing this hellish holiday.

Satan has always wanted to be like God, to be worshiped. Through ignorance and stupidity, many give him that worship on the night of nights

among Satanists: Halloween.

I stand amazed how Southern Baptist leaders seek to indoctrinate our people on the occult and then turn around and allow this diabolical propaganda to be displayed and "sold" in a Baptist institution. What hypocrisy!

Jesus said that we are to be for him or against him, that we can't serve two masters. Whether you are a denominational leader, a pastor or a local church member who refuses to acknowledge the truth about Halloween, Jesus said emphatically that you are of your father — the devil (John 8:42-47).

I realize that this is a judgmental statement, but take it up with Jesus! It's now time, while there's time, that the Saints of God stand for the truth's sake, regardless of whom it may offend. I am.

William Wright, pastor
Oak Grove Baptist Church
Mendenhall

Baptismal scenes

Editor:
May I solicit your help when there is a spare inch of space in your paper? Southern Baptists have one special art form of their own, and that art form is in danger of passing out of existence. I would like to help preserve that art form for future generations.

I am speaking about baptismal paintings. The Center for Religion and the Arts at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary is interested in receiving information on any baptismal paintings which still may exist. I am planning to write a book in this area and would like to appeal to your readers for the following things: a colored picture and slide of the baptismal scene, the name of the artist and the date the scene was painted if that is known, the approximate size of the scene, and the location of the church.

Thank you so much for your help in this area. I feel that if we make this news known through our state papers, we will have a good chance of preserving many of those baptismal scenes which still survive in some of our churches around the convention.

Please ask interesting readers to contact me at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40280. My deepest thanks for your help.

William L. Hendricks
Director of Center for
Religion and the Arts
Professor of Christian
Theology
Southern Seminary

Puzzled over "qualifications"

Editor:
I noticed the recent article in your paper headlined, "Mission appointments spiral downward," by Eric Miller. Several possible remedies were listed, such as an increase in the number of missionary candidate conferences, a missions video for ethnic groups, and sending missionaries who are on furlough (to rest) to talk preachers into missionary service. These ideas are admirable and would be highly effective... if the administrative powers that be were on target about why mission appointments are "spiraling downward."

Board President Keith Parks was

quoted: "this may be symptomatic of Southern Baptists' commitment to reach a lost world — a weakening in commitment." With all due respect, I can't agree. Have you ever tried to talk to the FMB? I have. I couldn't find out what the educational requirements are, how to begin the process toward appointment, or what "career" fields there are to choose from. That's right: There's no such thing as a generic missionary, unless you happen to be married to someone who gets appointed in a specific career field. Quite a few people I talked to in seminary said they had the same problem.

It's more than a shame when God-fearing, God-called men and women are turned away by our Board for any silly reason... or for no reason. God says, "Go ye, therefore," and the board says, "If God had intended for you to go anywhere, he would have made you a perfect male of the first year, without blemish or spot." I'm all for high standards, but when called-out people aren't even allowed to know what the standards are, how can I believe in the FMB's commitment to reach a lost world?

The problem is not that so many individuals are frustrated by bureaucratic game-playing, but that now — in a time when the world is more open to the gospel, and Christians are more open to missionary service, than in the past four decades — the board, in trying to overrule God's commandment to his people, is throwing away an opportunity that may not come again.

Lydia Hamby
Pearl

Thankful for BJC

Editor:
There will be many positive words spoken and written about our State Convention meeting. Many sound decisions were made that will propel our mission work into the nineties.

But one decision baffles me. Messengers turned down the opportunity to pass a resolution of support for the work of the Baptist Joint Committee (BJC). The maker of the substitute resolution felt that it would be divisive for Mississippi Baptists to support the BJC because some consider the BJC controversial. But is the work of the BJC really divisive?

The BJC lobbied successfully for legislation on overseas earned income that saved and continues to save our Foreign Mission Board MILLIONS OF DOLLARS EACH YEAR! The BJC gave counsel to our Annuity Board that kept the IRS from taxing church pension plans, saving Baptists hundreds of thousands more. Is anything divisive about saving millions for missions?

The work of the BJC was pivotal in passing Equal Access legislation that ensures the rights of religious student groups to meet, pray, or study the Bible voluntarily at school. Are Baptists against these efforts?

Last year, many churches in our state were faced with paying thousands in back sales taxes. Oliver Thomas, general counsel for the BJC, flew to Jackson to help. He gave over 40 hours of legal time to our Christian Action Commission (figure that at \$200/hr.). Our churches did not have to pay those back taxes. I asked Dr. Paul Jones to put a dollar figure on what the BJC has saved or given his office in assistance. He told me that figure would easily exceed \$80,000. The BJC makes mission money for Mississippi "the old fashioned way"... they save it!

I could go on and on about how the

BJC has upheld the rights of our churches to address moral issues and engage in moral advocacy without jeopardizing our tax-exempt status. Don't we have moral issues that need to be addressed? Don't we want to keep our tax-exempt status?

I simply do not see anything divisive in the work of the BJC. Only misinformation and innuendo make her controversial. Next time we have a chance to "give thanks" for these efforts, I hope we take it.

Ken Massey,
Marks

Selfishness in worst form

Editor:
A very interesting thing has taken place in our community over the last several years, namely, the implanting of fertilized embryos from highly purebred cattle into the wombs of grade or mixed breed cattle. It's strange that when we talk about this procedure that the cattleman does not consider the embryo a mass (a term usually reserved for something like a malignant tumor) but rather knows exactly the kind of calf that will be born to that mixed grade cow, and he knows that the calf will be totally unlike its surrogate mother. That calf came into being when the sperm and the egg were united — its life began at that very point; and the best that the calf could ever be was determined by what was in the sperm and what was in the egg. Only injury, sickness, or disease could alter that calf from the moment. The same is true when the sperm and embryo from humans unite.

When will we see that selfishness in its very worst form is responsible for the attitude that now pervades our society. Human life has never begun in but one way — a sperm and an egg united — there is no other way to create human life. Abortion, for many, is the result of an attitude which says, "I want to have sex when I want to, with whomever I want to; and I don't want to be responsible — either before or after." It is also an attitude that says, "I don't want to be responsible for another human's life, not even for nine months. I don't want to be bothered by the physical discomfort of bearing a child. I don't want to be inconvenienced. I have a job to do, and education to get, a busy schedule to keep. I simply can't let myself be tied down by another human being. It will ruin my life."

Babies evoke our own tender emotions. They are meant to be loved. It horrifies me when I see a baby mistreated, injured, or murdered. What, then, could motivate us but selfishness to deny the existence of another human being — one whose heartbeat we can hear — one whose movements we can feel? When will we stop denying these people entrance into our world simply because they deny us the fulfillment of our own selfish wishes.

If some great plague were to strike our nation (and maybe it has) and the population were rapidly diminished (and it could be), do you doubt that strict laws would be enacted against abortion to preserve the populace?

Bobby T. Hood, pastor
Myrick Church, Laurel

Life style evangelism

Editor:
My Wife, Wynette, and I belong to the First Baptist Church in Vicksburg. We also belong to the Mississippi Baptist Chaplains' Association, and the Mississippi Jail and Prison Fellowship.

In September of this year we had the privilege of going to the Billy Graham School of Evangelism in Little Rock, Ark. We learned some of the greatest methods of Life Style Evangelism that you can possibly receive. Some of the greatest leaders in the United States were there, including Billy Graham, Franklin Graham, E. V. Hill, Dr. Vicki Hines, Grady Wilson; and many more. I want to share these very important ideas with our readers.

First, we as Christians must be aware of the people around us and their needs. I learned from The United Way that there are more than 90 local agencies that can help people in the Central Mississippi area if people will respond to our help.

Second, we respond to the people's needs by making suggestions to them of the help that is available. The resources are unlimited.

The third thing we can do is cultivate our witness by living our life style before them. We must practice what we preach.

Fourth, we must present the Gospel to the lost and reach those who do not go to church.

May God richly use us.
Carter Gibson
Vicksburg

Greetings from Illinois

Editor:
I want to thank President Jim Futral, Executive Director Bill Causey, Program Director Chester Vaughn, and Mississippi Baptists for the invitation to attend and speak at the convention. For me it was a delightful experience to meet so many people and catch the spirit of Mississippi Baptists.

I am excited about the opportunity of nearly 2,000 Mississippi Baptist churches joining with nearly 1,000 Illinois Baptist churches to be used of our Lord in a special way for kingdom advance. Together, our two states have a total population of nearly fourteen and one half million people. In both states we have a total resident church membership of nearly 630,000. There is a great need for lost people in Illinois and Mississippi to hear the gospel and for saved people to have the opportunity to be a part of a Southern Baptist Church.

We have a great challenge before us in these next three years, but we also have a great opportunity. We in Illinois look forward to a partnership of prayer, fellowship, support, and strong mutual endeavor.

We now trust our Lord for open doors and pray his blessings on our partnership.

Sincerely,
Maurice L. Swinford
Executive Director
Illinois Baptist State
Association



Modern-day Lottie Moon is 'like a vitamin injection'

By Art Toalston

TEMUCO, Chile — Flintstones, One-A-Day and vitamin C don't have anything on Clara Brincefield.

She is a walking "vitamin injection" for the people she works with in Temuco, Chile. At least that's how they describe her.

Others have described her as a modern-day Lottie Moon. She is single and blazing new trails in missions as was Lottie Moon in China during the late 1800s.

But Brincefield isn't blazing new trails just for the sake of blazing new trails. She has important things on her mind.

"The doors are open in Chile," she said. "We have complete freedom. We can preach on every street corner, and people would listen. There's no limit to the properties we can buy for church sites. If the doors are open, let's go through them."

With such an openness to the gospel, Brincefield is burdened that more people haven't stepped forward to do something. "We need more missionaries to take advantage of all the opportunities here in Chile," she said.

And until more missionaries join Brincefield in responding to the opportunities, her philosophy is, "If I've got the strength and the health to do it, let's do it. Why say no?"

Brincefield is demanding, "but not in a negative way," said Eduardo Rios, longtime pastor of First Baptist Church in Temuco. You're mistaken, he said, if you think Brincefield is pushy or too aggressive. Rather, "She has zeal for the Lord and his purposes," he said.

Temuco, a city of more than 200,000 people, lacks the sort of climate enticing to most North Carolinians like Brincefield. It's as far south of the equator as Washington, D.C., is north of it — and considerably colder. A heavy coat, sweater and warm boots are necessary seven or eight months out of the year. And Brincefield keeps her coat on in many of the minimally heated churches and homes she visits.

The climate, however, never chilled this single missionary's fervor. Rios remembers Brincefield when she came to Chile 25 years ago for "her vitality, her cheerfulness and her willingness to help. She hasn't changed. She still has this youthful spirit."

Her personal calendar is filled with

reminders of meetings, workshops and appointments. Some involve the women's and youth organizations, the association's stewardship and Christian education committees or her MasterLife discipleship group. Some commitments will involve helping Sunday School teachers use the latest Spanish-language church materials. Other time slots are set aside for friends and acquaintances wanting her counsel.

"She's always ready to help," said Alejandro Valdivia, president of the Young People's Association. "She wants every minute to count for the Lord."

Missionary colleagues and Chilean Baptist friends often say that Brincefield "can't say no." But, "We've never heard her say no unless her calendar is full," said Teresa de Herrera, president of the association's Woman's Missionary Union.

"I don't ever do busywork," Brincefield maintains. "I'm not busy all the time in the derogatory sense of 'busy.'" She asserts that everything she does has a purpose linked to her conviction that training leaders and teachers is necessary "to strengthen the church so we can accomplish the task of evangelism — the task that we've been called to do."

"When people ask me to come to their churches and teach or lead something, I count it a privilege," Brincefield said. "If I'm possibly able to do it, I do it."

However, she does not agree to just "fill time." "I turn down a lot of things. I'm trying to keep the things I do within the goals I have in Christian education, discipleship and evangelism."

"If I really know there's a need, maybe I'll overschedule one week," she admits, "but maybe the next week I can catch up."

"I do have time for myself," she argues with a laugh. Sometimes there are spare moments during the day; more often, "after 10 o'clock at night." Sometimes, after late-night sessions, "I sleep late." And she makes use of her vacation days.

"I think burnout comes when you're not happy in what you're doing," Brincefield said, "or when you don't know what you want to do, or when your job is so demanding that it just

keeps you busy all the time.

"But I demand of myself," she said.

Until two years ago, she may have been overworked. For 23 years, she taught Bible and English and coordinated religious activities at the 950-student Baptist Academy in Temuco. She committed much of her remaining time to teaching in churches, Woman's Missionary Union organizations and the 25-student theological institute housed at the Baptist Academy.

But it came to the point that "I either had to leave the school or say no to the churches," she said. Keenly aware of "the many needs in the churches," she opted for associational work in 1988. At the school, two other teachers with whom she had worked were ready to fill her shoes.

Brincefield prefers to play an advisory role in the association. She enjoys helping pastors and lay leaders develop ways to meet needs and to help them evaluate their efforts. She admits that her natural tendency in any undertaking is just the opposite — to "take over and direct it."

Rojano, the association's president, says Brincefield encouraged church leaders to broaden their vision, "to look at the work in a fuller way, with more possibilities than the way it is being approached now."

The missionary enjoys spending Sundays with her own congregation, El Sembrador (The Sower) Baptist Church, or one of its two missions. But she yearns to help the church start even more missions.

Her help isn't channeled solely through the association or her church, notes Cecilia Bobadilla, Baptist Young Women vice president. "In a personal way, Clara has helped us; too. Clara has always told us she is available if we need her," said Bobadilla.

"Clara has been able to feel with the people," says Meri Jofre, manager of the Baptist bookstore in Temuco. "If they have sadness, she feels sad, too. She becomes a friend, a part of the family. Anybody can trust her in the good and the bad."

Agrees Marcela Correa, secretary of the Young Peoples Association, "She is able to meet an average person but also a person of class . . . a child or an adult . . . and help them. She's everybody's missionary."



A LIVELY PRESENCE — A sense of humor accompanies Clara Brincefield wherever she travels in southern Chile to strengthen Baptist churches through Christian education. Her laugh, a familiar one to Baptist co-workers, is a quick crescendo of short, joyous bursts. Here, she enjoys a light moment with Flavio Gonzalez, pastor of a congregation in Temuco. (FMB) PHOTO by Warren Johnson.



SINGLE SERVANT — Clara Brincefield gives a brief greeting to a Baptist mission in Temuco, Chile. She is not the first single missionary to impact Baptist work in the country. "I didn't have to come and make a place for myself," she says. "I already had a place," thanks to such single Southern Baptist missionaries as Agnes Graham and Cornelia Brower, who founded the Baptist Academy in Temuco in 1922.



PRAYER'S PLACE — One way Clara Brincefield aids Chilean Baptists and their churches is "by praying with them and for them." Here, she joins in a time of prayer at her church, El Sembrador (The Sower), where she has been a member since the mid-1970s. (FMB) PHOTO by Warren Johnson

**Lottie
Moon
Christmas
Offering
Goal:
\$81 million**

Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams

Blue Globe School No. 1

While I was in Sochi, Russia, Sarah Peugh, one of my fellow travelers, visited an English-speaking school in that lovely resort city of 350,000, on the Black Sea. Around 4 1/2 million people per year visit Sochi, she learned, to enjoy the climate, to enter one of the 50 sanatoriums for health purposes, or to stay at one of the 20 hotels on the coast.

Sarah is a member of First Baptist Church, Aberdeen, Miss., and is editor of Mississippi Clubwoman. Her purpose in visiting the "Blue Globe School No. 1, Yuni Lenintseo No. 5," was to deliver a package of booklets, Poems for Peace. At a leadership education workshop last summer, Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs' Juniores (school girls) wrote approximately 60 "poems for peace" to be edited and compiled by Mrs. Peugh and delivered by her to Russian school children.

She describes the Blue Globe school as "one of the finest all-English schools for affluent children" and continues, "Since most people would understand that Communism has no social status, it was surprising to learn from the headmistress of this 700-pupil school that there is an upper class. These are they who now receive extra gratuities or perks or have their own private practice after regular hours at the health center sanatoriums. Thus we equivocate the earnings of approximately four doctors per health center times 50 would equal more monies than the average Russian makes at 280 rubles per month. Therefore is the rationale for affluency that was apparently in this border city next to the Georgian province line."

"The teachers," she reports "teach in English and the school runs six days per week from 9 till 2. 'If the students make better grades, they only go five days per week,' the principal said."

She was greeted at the school with gifts of roses and an autographed book about Sochi, printed in English. "The pretty headmistress and principal both spoke perfect English and were well-dressed," she remembers. "I was under no restrictions, they told me, so I interviewed and taped."

"We can no longer lie to our children," they said; this was amazing

to hear. But this was repeated more or less in the same manner by the head of the Tass News Agency and by the Russian ambassador to the United States. Tass head stated, 'We no longer write what we want the people to think; we want to write exactly how things are.' The headmistress said that they had to tell the children the truth . . ."

"Russians love poetry," Sarah states, "and the Blue Globe students were overwhelmed (by the gift of poetry books) and want to reciprocate by sending a booklet of their poetry to us . . . A bridge of international understanding has been built from Mississippi USA to Sochi USSR."

"We love America!" she said is a refrain she heard all across Russia.

Re: Miss Mississippi

Cherry Busby, Miss Mississippi 1989, member of Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo, is available to perform in Baptist churches.

Cherry has a testimony to share. She can perform at revivals, youth specials, musicals, or any other event such as dedication services.

She can perform as a singer or as a speaker, whatever the occasion calls for.

In order for someone to contact her, she can be reached through her business manager: Mark T. Buys, Business Manager, P. O. Box 39, Vicksburg, MS 39181-0039; phone 601-631-3206 or 601-636-3968).

Missions was Southern Baptists' founding purpose.

Foreign missions' greatest priority is evangelism that results in churches; its greatest need is prayer.

Albania proudly claims to be the world's first atheist state. It had been Europe's only Muslim state, but this religion has been suppressed by Marxism. During a cultural revolution in 1967, modeled on that of China, 2,196 mosques, churches and other religious buildings were destroyed or converted to secular use. Today Albania is Europe's most closed and least evangelized land.

Top 25 churches earn study awards

Association	No.	Church/Pastor	Scott	14	Forest
Wayne	1	Calvary, Waynesboro Doug Broome	Lee	15	First, Verona
Lebanon	2	First, Hattiesburg Randy L. Von Kanel	Copiah	16	First, Hazlehurst
Hinds-Madison	3	First, Jackson Frank D. Pollard	Monroe	17	First, Amory
Hinds-Madison	4	Broadmoor, Jackson Jim Futral	Lauderdale	18	No Pastor
Clay	5	Calvary, West Point Walter Frederick	Lowndes	19	Midway, Meridian
Lee	6	Auburn Church Bob O'Neal	Oktober	20	Fairview, Columbus
Bolivar	7	First, Boyle Joseph M. Anderson	Alcorn	21	Mickey Dairymple
Washington	8	First, Greenville Kiely D. Young	Hinds-Madison	22	First, Maben
Hinds-Madison	9	Alta Woods, Jackson Frank H. Thomas, Jr.	Pontotoc	23	Randall S. Poss
Rankin	10	First, Flowood Ricky Gray	Hinds-Madison	24	East Corinth, Corinth
Adams	11	First, Natchez Odean W. Puckett	Northwest	25	Ralph Culp
Montgomery	12	First, Winona Jerry W. Mixon			Parkway, Jackson
Rankin	13	Antioch Church, Larry Duncan			No Pastor
					First, Pontotoc
					Edwin J. Deuschle
					Woodville Heights, Jackson
					Hueston Adkins
					First, Southaven
					Edsel P. Bone

Thursday, November 30, 1989

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9



JOY — East German Ulrike Nather (left) embraces her great aunt, a West German, after attending a worship service at Charlottenburg Baptist Church in West Berlin Nov. 12. That day many East German Christians worshiped in the West for the first time in their lives. (BP) PHOTO by Joanna Pinneo

Some E. German Baptists leave; others stay to encourage change

By Mike Creswell

WEST BERLIN (BP) — Virtually every Baptist church in East Germany has lost at least one family in the mass exodus to the West, but other members are remaining to fight for democracy.

A key meeting of New Forum, largest of four new political reform groups that have sprung up in East Germany in recent months, has been scheduled at Cantian Street Baptist Church in East Berlin later in November. Siegfried Reichelt, pastor of the church, strongly supports the drive toward democratization in East Berlin.

The New Forum meeting is expected to be less controversial than it might have been earlier, observers said, because the group has been recognized as a legal entity by the East German government.

Christian young people have been involved in the pro-democracy demonstrations that have rocked East Germany in recent weeks, according to Pastor Helmut Rogalski of Brandenburg and Renate Werner, a member of Birkenhainer Street Baptist Church in Dresden. Werner said her three children have taken an active part in the protests. Meanwhile, her husband, an engineer, has had to work long hours because so many people have left the company where he works in Dresden, she said.

Although no Baptists have taken a leading role in the current political struggle, Baptist pastors generally have agreed to support the Lutheran Church in its efforts to mobilize public opinion peacefully.

A significant percentage of evangelical East German pastors have opposed taking a political stance, however. Also, some East Germans would prefer to keep religious influence out of the efforts to organize, and have even objected to the reading of the Bible before meetings that have been held in church buildings.

Few church members attended services Nov. 12 at Mattern Street Baptist Church in East Berlin because so many had gone to West Berlin, reported Pastor Erhard Bachmann.

Dietrich and Gertraud Prescher, members of Cantian Street Baptist Church, were among many Baptists visiting West Berlin churches Nov. 12.

Prescher, a chemist, said he and other East German Baptists had feared a sharp reprisal from the East German government after 1 million East Germans demonstrated peacefully in East Berlin for change. One reason the crackdown did not come, he said, was that the churches involved had urged peaceful protests. But an even stronger factor was that Soviet tanks no longer back up the East German government, he added.

"The people of East Germany have awakened. They were like dead people for the past 30 years. Now they're

awake," he said.

At Luchenwalde, a meeting about the current political situation in East Germany was attended by Baptists, the public and district Communist Party officials. The discussion was "open and uncensored," reported Pastor Hans-Joachim Ehmer.

Erhard Bachmann has invited East Germany's government secretary for church and state to his church to discuss political events. The leader has agreed to come, although details have not been completed.

Estimates of how many Baptists have left East Germany range as high as 1,000, but observers said the actual

(Continued on page 10)

Devotional

Right or wrong?

By Russell Bush Jr.

In a day when moral values are challenged, scoffed at, and outright repudiated, it behooves all Christians to examine their own actions as they relate to moral values. Our values are not to be the values of the world. "We are in the world, but not of the world." Here are a few tests that I have found that help me in determining what is right or wrong.



Bush

The test of universality
Would it be all right if everybody did it?

The test of secrecy
Would it be all right if everybody knew about it?

The test of Holy Scripture
Does it violate a specific scripture?

The test of prayer
Can I ask God's approval on it?

The test of consequences
What are the consequences in others I know? Am I willing to pay the consequences others have paid?

Always remember — Never forget
Sin will take you where you do not intend to go, carry you farther than you want to go, keep you longer than you want to stay, and cost you more than you want to pay.

BUT

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

"... the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."
Bush is pastor, Main Street, Hattiesburg.

Pressler joins Bush's Drug Advisory Council

By Marv Knox

WASHINGTON (BP) — Paul Pressler, vice chairman of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, has been named to the President's Drug Advisory Council.

Pressler, a Houston appeals court judge, is among 27 members of the new council, which was announced by President George Bush Nov. 13.

"The council will assist the president and the director of national drug control policy, William Bennett, in the development of our national drug policy," according to a statement released by the White House press secretary's office.

"The council will complement Director Bennett's public-sector efforts by communicating with the American people, encouraging private-sector involvement, establishing a national support group and soliciting the views of the American people," the statement said.

Pressler indicated he would accept a part-time appointment in the Bush administration in mid-October, when he turned down the president's nomination to head the U.S. Office of Government Ethics.

At that time, Pressler cited family considerations and his "obligation to serve out the term (on the Executive Committee) to which I have been

elected by Southern Baptists" as reasons for declining the ethics post. His Executive Committee term expires in June 1991.

When the Drug Advisory Council was announced, Pressler told Baptist Press: "I feel that the drug problem is one of the greatest problems facing America today. This will give me a real opportunity to have input into the drug war."

"It is a part-time commission but required FBI clearance for membership. It does not necessitate my moving to Washington or resigning from the court or the Southern Baptist Executive Committee. Although it will be a hard-working commission, I will be able to continue my other activities."

Among other members of the council are Chairman William Moss, president and board chairman of the William Moss Corp. of Texas; Adm. William J. Crowe Jr., former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, now retired; Tom Landry, former coach of the Dallas Cowboys; gospel singer Sandi Patti; Jonas Salk, inventor of the polio vaccine; Roger B. Smith, chairman and chief executive officer of General Motors; and Robert C. Wright, president and chief executive officer of NBC.

Top 25 associations earn study awards — 1989

No.	Association	Awards
1	Hinds-Madison	5,199
2	Lee	2,358
3	Lebanon	2,186
4	Rankin	1,623
5	Washington	1,304
6	Gulf Coast	1,269
7	Lauderdale	1,190
8	Pearl River	1,095
9	Pike	1,060
10	Northwest	1,043
11	Warren	1,019
12	Wayne	1,016
13	Leake	1,000
14	Jones	977
15	Copiah	944
16	Lowndes	821
17	Pontotoc	774
18	Clay	696
19	Neshoba	661
20	Simpson	658
21	Monroe	649
22	Jackson	630
23	Scott	624
24	Panola	622
25	Winston	554



Trotter dies at planning meet

NASHVILLE (BP) — Don Trotter, director of the Sunday school growth and administration department at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, died Thursday, Nov. 16, after suffering an apparent heart attack during a project planning meeting.

Trotter, 60, marked his 25th anniversary with the Sunday School Board in September.

Trotter had been participating in a meeting with the Great Commission Project task force planning a Sunday school growth training project when he apparently suffered a heart attack during a break.

Simpson hosts witness blitz

Simpson Baptist Association hosted an Interfaith Witness Blitz, Oct. 29. Fourteen churches invited speakers to share on four subjects. There were 29 speaking engagements with a total of 1,296 in attendance. The guest speakers were Wade Allen, Santanism and New Age; Mrs. Eunice Bryant, New Age; Hollis Bryant, Jehovah's Witness; Tal Davis, Santanism; Jimmy Furr, Jehovah's Witness; L. C. Newell, Mormons; Olyn Roberts, Santanism; Glen Schilling, Satanism and Jehovah's Witness, and Don Sorrells, Santanism.

The Interfaith Witness Blitz was sponsored by the Home Mission Board, Cooperative Missions Department of Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and Simpson Baptist Association.

Revival dates

Arrowood, Meridian: Dec. 1-3; Fri. and Sat., 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Carless Evans, Meridian, evangelist; Jerry Hooks, Arrowood, music; Kevin Griffin, pastor.

Some E. Germans leave

(Continued from page 5) number likely is only a few hundred. Yet even the loss of a few hundred Baptists, most of them young, will be significant in a country where Baptists number only about 12,000.

Many of the people emigrating have come from southern East Germany, where living conditions are worse and where Western television is not available as it is in areas near West Berlin.

In Zeiss, East Germany, a 70-member Baptist church has lost 20 members. In Zwickau, a church lost 40 members. Mattern Street Church in East Berlin has lost 15 members.

Some East German Baptists reportedly are angry at members who leave for the West, calling them "turncoats" and pressuring members not to leave.

During a service at 330-member Charlottenburg Baptist Church in West Berlin Nov. 12, an East German visitor prayed that conditions would so improve in East Germany that people would not want to leave. Pastor Horst Joost urged Christians to use the unsettled conditions in West Berlin for evangelism.

At least one member did just that. Gertrud Vegener opened her apartment to the many East Germans lined up at a bank to get money, offering them refreshments, use of the bathroom and a place to rest. She also passed out Christian literature and

spoke of the gospel; one East German woman accepted Christ as savior.

The Charlottenburg church, located in downtown West Berlin on busy Bismarck Street, also voted to extend its coffeehouse ministry by offering free food and drinks to East German visitors, "so they won't have to spend the little money they have on food while they're here," explained one church member.

Church member Hans Dietrich Hohne was delighted that several relatives and their friends from East Berlin were able to stay in his home for the first time in years. "My wife made a cake in advance, expecting people to come, and they came," he said with obvious emotion.

Hohne said he is excited about the border opening but warned that unless East and West Germans alike repent for their crimes during World War II and take a strong stand against Nazism, God would not bless the countries as he otherwise might.

On a lighter note, Kristin Smith was not surprised when the Berlin Wall was opened Nov. 9. Kristin, age 6, is the daughter of Southern Baptist representatives Jim and Becky Smith, based in West Berlin.

Kristin had prayed Nov. 8 that God would make the Berlin Wall "just fall down." When she saw bulldozers doing just that the next day on television, she said, "Boy, God sure answers prayers fast!"

Off the Record

A duck hunter, proud of his marksmanship, took a friend one morning to witness his skill. After some time a lone duck flew by.

"Watch this," whispered the hunter, as he took careful aim and fired. The duck flew serenely on.

"My boy," said the hunter, "you are witnessing a great miracle. There flies a dead duck."

Mary Jane was fascinated by the fact that her older brother and sister could read. So when she returned home after her first day at nursery school, she bounded into the house, grabbed a book, and thumbed through it with the greatest anticipation. Finally she closed the book in disgust with the remark, "I still can't read."



Mountain Creek to present "Priority"

Mountain Creek Church, Rankin County, will present "Priority," musical group, Mississippi College Baptist Student Union, on Sunday night, Dec. 3, at 9 p.m. in a "late night extra." The church is located 4 1/2 miles from Florence on Highway 469-S. For additional information about the concert, call Curtis Carter, Mountain Creek minister of music, at 857-8509. Carter states that those coming to the late night performance might like to bring a gift for the Children's Village — baseball cards, sweater, or any other item suitable as a gift at Christmas to a child at the Village.

CAC to sponsor seminar on lottery bill

The Christian Action Committee of Simpson Association is sponsoring a seminar Monday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m., held at First Church, Mendenhall, to help better inform the public in regard to the "Lottery" Bill. The "Lottery" Bill is to be introduced at the January, 1990 session of the Legislature. The following people have been invited as guest panelists: Representative Brent Walker, Senator Rob Smith, former Senator Bill Alexander of Cleveland and Charles Myers, chairman of the Baptist Christian Action Commission.

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Just for the Record

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 11

Thursday, November 30, 1989



The Acteens of Enterprise Church had their recognition service on Sept. 24. The theme was "New Beginnings." The Acteen leaders are Karen Kersh and Linda Kidd.

The Acteens are Denise Allen, Heather Bullock, Dawn Kamper, Pam Murray, Amy Smallwood, Robin Lindsey, Leslie Melton, Amy Moore, Beth Rolison, Amy Boggan, Lori Turnage, Stacy Covington, and Tracy Melton.

Pictured, flower girls and crown bearers are Freddie Speed, Phillip Speed, Charlie



Speed, Abe Speed, Ashley Covington, Kyle Murray, Kelly Ward, Courtney Temple, Jeffery Moore, Pete Kowoll, Brittany Speed, Alan Creel, Amber Felton, Amanda Parker, Brandon Kidd, Alan Dear, Amy Little, Lisa Speed, Jennifer Kersh, Leslie Etheridge, Candice Etheridge, Kyle Farris, and Leslie Speed. Not pictured are Justin Lee, Don Moore, and Dillon Goodin.



Gaston Church, Booneville, recently held note burning services for its sanctuary, built at a cost of \$75,000. Pictured, left to right, are Bruce McCutchen, Barry Cox, David Moore, Chuck Hampton, Dot Worley, Betty Gifford, Ripple Ballard, and Nell Johnson.



First Church, Troy, Pontotoc Association, recently held ground breaking services for a new education and fellowship building. The building will consist of a fellowship hall, seven classrooms, pastor's study, and a kitchen. Greg Herndon is pastor.



Gum Grove Church held a GA recognition service, using the theme, "World Hunger." GAs on program, who spoke or sang, included Stacy Harrison, McLeah Hall, Lacey Stewart, Kim Roberts, Rusty Smith, Misty Freeman, and Christi Roberts. Leaders on program were Audrey Johnson and Regina East. The GAs collected \$42 for world hunger. The three oldest GAs, Stacy Harrison, McLeah Hall, and Christi Roberts, had completed all six of their Missions Adventures steps and were presented with charms. The following GAs were presented with badges and pins:

Bottom row, left to right: Christi Roberts, Kim Roberts, Lacey Stewart, Stacy Harrison, and McLeah Hall. Top row from left to right: Misty Freeman, Jessica Smith, and Rusty Smith. Not pictured: Terri Richardson and Mandy Butler.

Mississippi Baptist activities

- Dec. 3 Foreign Missions Day in Sunday School (SS Emphasis)
- Dec. 3-10 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (WMU Emphasis)
- Dec. 4-5 Preaching Conference; Temple BC, Hattiesburg; 2 p.m., 4th-5 p.m., 5th (CAPM)
- Dec. 5 Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Meeting; Baptist Building; 10 a.m.

Off the Record

The boy explained to his teacher why he hadn't yet returned his report card to her. "You gave me three As and the card still is on the round of the relatives." — Review, Geraldine, Mont.

More evidence found for existence of 'Eve'

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (EP) — New genetic evidence has lent strength to the theory that all people alive today are descended from a single woman. Creationists believe that all people are descendants of Adam and Eve, as indicated in Genesis. This new evidence comes not from a creationist organization, but from molecular biologist Allan C. Wilson, of the University of California, Berkeley.

Wilson's studies have led him to believe that humankind descended from a single African woman, dubbed "Eve," who lived 140,000 years ago. He believes descendants of Eve migrated north out of Africa 75,000 years ago and settled southern Europe 35,000 years ago.

Wilson formed his theory after studying DNA in mitochondria. Mitochondria has only 37 genes, making it easier to study than the cell's nucleus, which has an estimated 100,000 genes. Genes in mitochondria are also passed only from mothers, making possible a study of maternal lineage.

By comparing every possible pairing among 147 people tested for the study, Wilson determined that all modern people are descended from a woman who lived in Southern Africa 140,000 years ago. They speculate that other women may have been alive at the time and suggest that the lineages descended from other women may have eventually died out.

Puzzle on page 16

Answers to Word Search: Countries

CGHUVGJOPMEWADIFLES
OBEREOAHRWLDLNAQATR
NRZIMBABWEIDTHELIW
GAATIRYAZZBLAANNPP
JIXMLBAQACEEKRIIAHH
BBRBRREERKLRIEAGDZII
UMYIPHWASATVEQFNLL
WORABANUOXAKRLPAID
LLRILHCWABUEIIOSTPO
OOHARWAKGJORDANPV
COMLEILAPTIJRNILPIC
BOAEHGNARJXZNDWADENA
SSURINAMXICOPARTMEE
ITGOTOMNWZQPNFEEASX
OARGOIMESDVAVUOARCTE
RRVCSARUDNOHATBTISAAR
WITANITNECARVRHINO
CCILEALSOETHKOREAGHB
LLEUZENEVSIOPRHAKNM
GKLADSFJPIMNERYCXAQ

Roseland Park Church, Picayune, held a ground-breaking ceremony October 29, for a new building. The 15,050 sq. ft. facility will contain a new administrative suite, welcome center and Sunday School office, a media center, classrooms for 19 adult units, a fellowship hall to seat 350, and an industrial-style kitchen. Construction is to begin immediately.

Left to right are James Spencer (pastor), Reggie Hanberry (chairman of the building committee), Joel Wakeland, A. R. Sumrall, Bob Dill, Bennett Padgett, Dale McCarty, Gerald Cruthird, Denise Rigney, James Woods, Pat Brackley (contractor) and Nano Turchi (architect).

Alta Woods Church, Jackson, will present its Living Christmas Tree on Dec. 9-10. "God With Us: A Christmas Celebration" is the theme of this year's program which reflects on the presence of God.

A total of 229 musicians will participate in the event, including several children's choirs, the Reflections Youth Choir, the Lyrique Bell Choir, the Chancel Choir, and a 23 piece orchestra. Bob Jones, minister of music, will direct the program. He is assisted by Mrs. Terry Hodges.

Performances are scheduled for Dec. 9, at 7 p.m. and Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. The performance will be televised by WAPT on Dec. 24 at 10 p.m. and by ACTS on Dec. 24 at 10 p.m. and on Christmas Day at 3 p.m.

Ridglea Heights Church, Escatawpa, will have dedication for its church building, Dec. 10, at 1:30 p.m. Glenn Graham, pastor, will deliver the dedication message. Covered dish will be served in fellowship hall at 12:15. Song and praise service will be held in afternoon.

Loop Road Church, Richton, will dedicate its \$152,000 church building, Sunday, Dec. 3. Services will begin with Sunday School at 10 a.m.; worship at 11 a.m.; dedication service at 1:30 p.m. with Ollie Bryant, director of missions, Perry Association, as guest speaker. A noon meal will be served by the church. J. B. Bell is interim-pastor.

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SCRAPBOOK

Of so little faith

To know that he will love us still,
Though times are good or tough,
Should make us feel serene and safe,
And should be quite enough!

Yet, God is strong, while we are weak;
Our faith is very small:
We seem to feel that our own strength
Must win out over all!

If we believe that Jesus died
To take away our sin,
Why are our days so full of woe
Again, and yet again?

—Wm. W. Warwick
Jackson

Daydreamer

I like to sit in the evening breeze
At the setting of the sun,
To know my chores are all complete
And the day is almost done.

I feel relaxed and all at once
My head begins to nod.
I feel I'm on a high, high hill
And closer now to God;

He wraps his arms around me,
To me he seems to say,
"Rest now, my child, go through the night
To start a brand new day."

—Lucille Tallant
Bruce

Lost opportunity

We spent an afternoon or two,
We did some things girls normally do.

We drove to the city;
We shopped and ate.

We laughed and talked.
Our boredom to abate.

Those days of idle time are gone.
They didn't seem to last very long.

The girl I knew, she moved away.
I think about her many a day.

I wish the time I could recall,
The things I said weren't important at all.

There are other things I would like to say,
To help her cope with her life today.

But those moments I never can recall,
I failed to tell her about my all in all.

I bow my knees —
I kneel to pray:

"Lord, send her someone with the words of life to say.

And help me, Lord, to be bold and strong,
In case you send another precious soul along."

Gail Williams

Note: Due to space limitations, "Scrapbook" is to be discontinued at the end of 1989. The BAPTIST RECORD is not now accepting poems, but is still printing some of those that had been kept on file for possible use.

Two more die from Seoul fire

By Michael Chute

SEOUL, South Korea (BP) — Two more children have died from injuries suffered in a Baptist kindergarten fire in Seoul, South Korea, bringing to six the number of children killed by the fire that swept through the second floor of Seoul Memorial Baptist Church Oct. 16.

Eight children remain in critical condition in Seoul hospitals. Doctors do not believe their injuries are life-threatening but cannot predict how long the children might be hospitalized. Fifteen other children injured in the fire were treated and released from four area hospitals.

"There have been arms and legs amputated already," said Southern Baptist missionary Cloyes Starnes of those hospitalized. "There are many badly burned faces and bodies."

Angry parents of fire victims are clamoring for compensation of \$50,000 for each child killed or injured in the fire. If granted, the total compensation figure would exceed \$1.5 million. The church had no insurance.

Demonstrations by parents of victims on the church grounds have forced the congregation to move its services to the playground of a nearby elementary school. On Sundays, the parents gather at the church entrance to prevent members from entering the building.

"It may take a long time for the church to get back in the building," Starnes predicted. The parents have "put up a tent inside the gate with pictures of the dead children and put graffiti around the gate and walls say-

ing the church has murdered children."

Missionary Jack Green said the church is "almost paralyzed and neutralized by this tragedy."

The cause of the fire remains unknown. But in the Oriental tradition of placing blame, school Principal Ohm Hyun Suk is being held in a Seoul prison.

Her family members and friends hope her trial will be scheduled within three months, but it could take much longer.

Two other workers at the kindergarten were arrested along with Ohm but were released when she

Rita

Rita (not her real name) is a Nepalese Christian who, along with close Christian friends, cares the poor Christians around her.

Though she has few personal possessions, each day she and her friends take out one handful of rice and set it aside for their brothers and sisters in Christ who are in need. The rice is collected every two months.

These Christians would never think of eating their own portion without first remembering the "poor."

Lottie Moon
offering goal:
\$81 million

accepted full responsibility for the fire. She is the wife of Han Myung Guk (David Han), pastor of the church and a former president of the Korea Baptist Convention.

Ohm "is one of the most radiant Christians you will find anywhere," said Starnes. "Many people... love her." Green added that "she reveals the presence of God in this challenge."

Ohm is being held in a cell with nine other people. One of the other inmates is a Christian. "She wants to witness to them while she's there," Starnes said. "She just wants people to pray that she might be a witness" through this ordeal.

To compensate the children's families, the church has raised more than \$150,000. Other donors in South Korea have pledged another \$300,000. The Seoul Baptist Association asked its 300 member churches to assist, and the Seoul International Baptist Church already has donated more than \$2,000 from special offerings.

Also, pastor Han has made plans to sell his apartment and move into a room in the church building. He will use proceeds from the sale to help compensate the families of fire victims.

Seoul Memorial Baptist Church was the first Baptist church built following the Korean War. It was constructed with funds raised by military chaplains as a memorial to Southern Baptist servicemen killed during the war.

Organized in 1946, the historic church is the "mother" congregation of the other Baptist churches in Seoul.



Mississippi College . . . "Cross Section"

"Cross Section" is a Christian drama group composed of Mississippi College students and under the sponsorship of the Communication Department and the Baptist Student Union at the college. This group is available for travel to churches for creative worship services or other related programs. Front row, from the left: Leslie Stokes, Columbus; Jason Davis, Terry; Stephanie Speights, Clinton; Malinda Loflin and Charlie Loflin, Hazlehurst. On the middle row, left to right, is Leslie Hobby, Crystal Springs; Anthony Guy, Ocean Springs; and Lara Wheeler, Jackson. On the back row, from left to right, is David Price, Jackson; Webb Drake, Dothan, Al.; Matt Phillips, Madison; and Alan Spencer, Senatobia. For further information concerning "Cross Section," contact the Mississippi College BSU office 925-3238. (M. C. Photo)

Soviet Baptists send sympathy after quake

NASHVILLE (BP) — Baptists in the Soviet Union have sent Southern Baptists in the United States a telegram of sympathy and encouragement following the California earthquake.

The telegram was sent to Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, from three officers of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the Soviet Union.

The telegram is addressed to "dear brethren" and states:

"We express our sincere sympathy in connection with earthquake in California. Let sources of heavenly consolation and protection for all

(who) suffered and those who lost their relatives and near ones be opened, and let God be comforter and healer for them. 'Your sorrow will be comforted by Almighty God and time.

"In this tragic time, we are with you, dear friends, and we are praying that the Lord might help you to endure this tragedy."

The telegram came from Vasili Logvinenko, the All-Union Council's president; General Secretary Alexei Bichkov; and Alexei Stoian, director of the council's international relations.

Bennett sent similar telegrams to All-Union Council officers following the Chernobyl nuclear incident and the Ukrainian earthquake.

Alabama twister claims Southern Baptists' lives

By Jim Burton

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (BP) — At least four Southern Baptists have been identified among the estimated 20 fatalities resulting from an afternoon tornado that left a two-mile portion of Huntsville, Ala., looking like a battle zone.

Southern Baptist victims identified so far are Della Buford, Jackson Way Baptist Church; Louise McCord, Southside Baptist Church; and Mary Matheny and Karen Jones, Whitesburg Baptist Church.

The same storm system that spawned tornadoes in Alabama and Georgia claimed the life of Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission trustee Stan Riehn, 38, of Oak Ridge, Mo., Nov. 5. He was killed in a traffic accident as heavy rains moved through southeastern Missouri.

When the storm system moved into the Southeast, the tornado struck about four hours after the Alabama Baptist Convention adjourned its annual meeting at First Baptist Church of Huntsville.

The Alabama Baptist Brotherhood department's disaster relief feeding unit was in Huntsville for the conven-

tion and was activated to feed support personnel, said Tommy Puckett, state Brotherhood director.

Most Southern Baptist churches contacted by Baptist Press reported damage to members' homes.

"We have three or four church-member families that have homes that were severely damaged," said Alvin Pelton, administrator at First Baptist Church.

"Most are two stories with the top story completely gone."

Whitesburg Baptist Church was the closest Southern Baptist church to the major areas of damage. It was without power Nov. 16, with the exception of its fellowship hall and kitchen. Church Secretary Beverly Jones said the fellowship hall was used as a day shelter for workers to get food, coffee and to keep warm.

I love words but I don't like strange ones. You don't understand them, and they don't understand you. Old words is like old friends, you know 'em the minute you see 'em — Will Rogers

Hurricane victims still need help in Caribbean

By Mary E. Speidel

PLYMOUTH, Montserrat (BP) — Two months after Hurricane Hugo devastated much of the Caribbean, residents of some islands still are struggling to recover.

Among islands where Southern Baptist foreign missionaries work, the greatest needs remain on Montserrat and Guadeloupe, said Bill Damon, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's associate area director for Brazil and the Caribbean.

Difficulty obtaining building materials on the islands has slowed reconstruction, according to reports from missionaries. The islands' rainy season also is causing soggy living conditions for many people whose houses still are without roofs.

About 70 percent of the damaged homes on Montserrat remain roofless, said Southern Baptist missionary John Hamilton, who lives on the nearby island of Antigua. "It is as if the hurricane hit a week ago," he said.

Besides difficulty in obtaining building materials, another problem is the lack of an adequate dock for receiving supply shipments. The dock at Plymouth, Montserrat, was blown away in the storm. With a temporary, makeshift pier, "it's tedious and slow getting things unloaded," said Hamilton, who is from Decatur, Ala.

Islanders have covered their roofless houses with plastic, but that won't keep the dampness out during rainy season, Hamilton explained. After living in the situation for two months, the people are getting depressed, he said. "The needs are still great here. The people have not been able to recover."

Most immediate food needs have been met, but about 80 percent of the residents still don't have electricity, Hamilton said. Candles can no longer be found in the stores.

Members of Calvary Baptist Church, the only Baptist church on Montserrat, are meeting in the church's basement. The church building was demolished by Hugo. All evening services have been canceled because of lack of electricity. The Foreign Mission Board is planning to send a generator to the island, board officials said.

About 30 percent of the homes on Antigua also do not yet have electricity, Hamilton said. Phone service still is out in some areas.

Hamilton also works on the islands of Nevis and St. Kitts, which he said have recovered well.

Hurricane relief efforts in the Caribbean have been coordinated by the Foreign Mission Board and the convention's Brotherhood Commission.

Since Hugo blasted the Caribbean in late September, about \$54,000 for disaster relief and \$5,700 for hunger needs have been sent to the Caribbean, according to board officials.

Forty-nine Southern Baptists have worked on volunteer relief teams on the islands where missionaries work. Volunteers have worked in cleanup and reconstruction on Antigua, Guadeloupe, Saba, St. Martin, St. Kitts and St. Eustatius. Three more groups were scheduled to work in November and December for one or two weeks.

On Guadeloupe in the French West Indies, many people still are staying in public shelters, said Judy Gary, a Southern Baptist missionary on the island. In some of the most heavily damaged areas, people are living in tents on the beach in "deplorable"

conditions, she said.

"What you have is the poor people who have become poorer," said Mrs. Gary. "They're the ones who were hit the hardest."

In areas of Guadeloupe severely hurt by Hugo, up to half of the houses damaged still lack roofs, estimated her husband, missionary Al Gary. Getting construction materials is difficult, but that's not the only reason many homes are still unrepaired, he said. Many people are waiting for relief funds from the French government in order to begin reconstruction.

At least 80 percent of the electricity has been restored on the island, Gary said.

Southern Baptist hunger relief funds have paid for food distributed in some of Guadeloupe's hardest-hit areas and on the island of Desirade, a dependency of Guadeloupe. Food and clothing sent by Baptists on the French West Indian island of Martinique also was distributed.

Members of the Evangelical Baptist Church in Moule, Guadeloupe, used Southern Baptist donations to buy about 450 sacks of groceries to distribute to needy residents. Gary is pastor of the church. Moule, a town just outside the capital city of Pointe-a-Pitre, was one of the most heavily damaged areas of the island, according to news reports.

Enough hunger funds remain to distribute more food, said Mrs. Gary. "But this kind of thing could go on for weeks because these people who are without homes aren't going to get one miraculously next week," she said.

The church's rented building was destroyed in the storm, but land has been purchased for a new facility. A Southern Baptist volunteer group will help with construction in early December.

Since the hurricane, many islanders have been asking questions about why Hugo happened and what God's role was in the disaster, Gary said. "There has been a real openness to the gospel. I think a lot more people are willing to listen than would have been before."

Volunteers from Kentucky, Mississippi and Virginia will travel to Guadeloupe Dec. 2. They will help construct a new building for the Evangelical Baptist Church in Moule. A former missionary to Guadeloupe, Wayne Frederick of Guntown, Miss., is group leader.

On St. Martin in the Netherland Antilles, volunteers from Indiana and Oklahoma were to arrive Nov. 17. A team from Alabama and North Carolina will also work on the island beginning Dec. 9.

In other relief efforts, the Foreign Mission Board sent an emergency air freight shipment of food and supplies to Antigua in October.

Food and money still are needed for the Caribbean, Southern Baptist relief officials said. Items requested include rice, beans, canned meat, powdered milk, baby food and cooking oil in cans or plastic containers. The items should be shipped to KMA Enterprises, Napoleon and River Building, J-Cube 9, New Orleans, La. 70175. Donations should be designated for Foreign Mission Board/Brotherhood Disaster Relief for Antigua/Guadeloupe.

Financial contributions should be sent to the Foreign Mission Board, P.O. Box 6767, Richmond, Va. 23230. Checks should be designated for the general relief fund for Hurricane Hugo victims, officials said.



Lottie Moon dollars will go to Nepal

This extended family had to move to Tansen, Nepal, from an outlying village where there was too little land and too many people. The family needed food and clothing when missionary Pat Thorpe discovered them in the marketplace. "It bothered

me as I walked by," Pat remembers. The clothes they are wearing here were bought with funds sent from First Baptist Church in Shelby, N.C., collected at Vacation Bible School and sent to Pat in time for the cold season in Nepal. (FMB) Photo

Missionaries calm; fighting continues

By Donald Martin

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (BP) — The three Southern Baptist missionary families in El Salvador reported they were safe Nov. 16 as government troops gained an advantage over leftist rebels in the latest fighting of the country's decade-old civil war.

"It's quite an adjustment to hear bombs go off," said missionary John (Rusty) Alums. "We hear them every night now, so it's not comfortable and yet we realize that it's not going on right in front of us like it was last Saturday night."

Alums said he knew of no Salvadoran friends or Baptist co-workers who had been killed or injured. The fighting has left more than 500 people dead and more than 1,000 people wounded in this last guerrilla offensive, according to Associated Press reports.

Alums and his wife, Peggy, and missionaries Bill and Libby Stennett live in San Salvador, the capital, where a

6 p.m.-6 a.m. curfew was in effect for most of the city. Some areas were under a 24-hour curfew as rebels and government forces battled house-to-house. Alums is from Mobile, Ala. Mrs. Alums is from Birmingham, Ala. The Stennetts are from Richmond, Va., and Washington, D.C., respectively.

The Alumses live near the Salvadoran president's home where rebels attacked Nov. 11. Attackers opened fire in the street in front of their home and threw hand grenades and other explosives. The Alumses and their children — son John Jr., 15, and daughter Kelly, 6 — took cover in the stairwell of their two-story town house. A rebel was killed in front of the house; the neighborhood night watchman also was killed.

Alums and Bill Stennett were able to go to the Baptist bookstore in San Salvador Nov. 16, although the store is not open. Both bookstores in the capital area are undamaged. They

had no information about possible church damage in the area.

Alums said they are talking daily by telephone to missionaries Sam and Margaret Drummond in the city of Santa Ana, where the situation is much calmer. The Drummonds, of Camden, Tenn., and Louisville, Ky., respectively, have even been able to open the Baptist bookstore in their city.

Food supplies are adequate in San Salvador's central market, Alums said, but in the northern and eastern parts of the city, where fighting is heaviest, some shortages may exist.

Donald Martin is a staff writer in the Richmond (foreign) bureau of Baptist Press.

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Murders concern missionaries but they still plan to stay

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (BP) — The brutal murders Nov. 16 of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter in San Salvador, along with death threats to Lutheran missionaries in the area, deeply concern Southern Baptist missionaries in El Salvador, according to mission official Joe Bruce.

But the three missionary families have not changed their intention to remain in the country, Bruce said Nov. 17.

"As far as they know, there have not been any threats against any Baptist churches or the Baptist leadership," said Bruce, area director of Southern

Baptist work in Middle America.

Victor Mercado, Latin America area secretary for American Baptist Churches/U.S.A., added that his denomination has no plans to urge the four American Baptist missionaries to leave El Salvador.

As fighting continues, so does the climb in the number of dead and wounded. At least 800 people have died and more than 1,600 have been wounded.

Before they knew of the Jesuits' killings, the Southern Baptist missionaries said they felt safe, as government troops gained an apparent advantage over leftist rebels

The Christian's mission: pointing to Jesus

By Billy R. Williams
John 1:6-8, 19-23, 29-34

This week's lesson is the first of a four-session unit from the Gospel of John which introduces the person of Jesus and his purpose for coming into the world.



Williams

The focal passage for the week centers on John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ. One commentary gives this helpful outline of the focal passages: "Sent for a Purpose" (1:6-8), "Acknowledging the Purpose" (1:19-23), and "Fulfilling the Purpose" (1:29-34).

First, it needs to be noted that John was SENT FOR A PURPOSE (1:6-8). The Gospel writer gives clear witness that John was sent by God for a task (vs. 6). John's name, which means "a gift of God," is a reminder that God provided a special miracle that John should be born to aged and otherwise barren parents (Luke 1:5-25, 57-80). The special purpose for which God brought John into the world was to announce and bear witness to the Light (vs. 7a) — Jesus Christ. John bore witness in order that men might accept Jesus as the Christ and thus com-

UNIFORM

mit themselves to him (might believe, vs. 7b). John was, as all believers are, a light, but he was not THE Light. Therefore, John did not point men to himself but to Jesus (vs. 8). All Christians need to remember that their task is to point beyond themselves to their Savior.

The second focus is John's ACKNOWLEDGING OF THE PURPOSE (1:19-23). When John came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, multitudes came to hear him. When word of this phenomenon reached the religious leaders (Jews) in Jerusalem they sent a delegation to investigate (vs. 19). This group of religious leaders sought to identify John. Hobbs suggests that John's response to their question, "Who are you?", indicates that John understood them to be asking if he were the long awaited Messiah. John declared emphatically that he was not the Christ (vs. 20). John likewise denied that he was Elijah returned to earth or a prophet like Moses as prophesied in Deuteronomy 18:15 (vs. 21). Desiring an answer to take back to Jerusalem, the delegates asked John, "Just who are you?" (vs. 22). They had been sent to discover who

John was, but because of his humility they had so far only learned who he was not. John replied in the words of Isaiah (Isa. 40:3) for he saw himself only as a voice — a herald — who strove to prepare the way for the Messiah. In this statement John declared himself to be the forerunner of Christ.

The remaining focal passage recounts John FULFILLING THE PURPOSE for which he came (1:29-34). The day following his encounter with the Jewish delegation, John beheld Jesus coming toward him. When he saw Jesus, John very probably pointed toward him and said, "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (vs. 29). Instead of the popular expectation of a political-military Messiah, John spoke of Jesus in terms of a suffering Savior. Whether John meant the Paschal lamb of the Passover or the lambs offered daily in the temple, the picture is one of sacrifice. Jesus would be offered as the sacrifice for the sin of all men. That John used the term "sin" suggests that Christ would deal with the basic cause of man's separation — his sinful nature. John identified Jesus as the person of whom he had spoken the day before — the one preferred before him (vs. 30). He was preferred because he was before John — that is both in his being with God from eternity and in his superior stand-

ding with God and man.

When John said that he knew Jesus not (vs. 31a) he did not mean that he was unaware of Jesus as a person. Since their mothers were related, John was probably acquainted with Jesus. However, until the moment that God revealed it to him, John did not know that Jesus was the Messiah. Nevertheless, the very purpose of his ministry was to make Jesus known to the Jewish people (vs. 31b). God had instructed John that the Messiah would be made known unto him by the Holy Spirit descending and remaining upon the Christ (vs. 33). John testified that he saw the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove descend and remain upon Jesus (vs. 32). This occurred at the baptism of Jesus by John some six weeks before this time (Matt. 3:16, Mark 1:9-11). This had made such a deep impression on John that what he saw remained with him and he bore full witness that Jesus was the Son of God (vs. 34). In like manner Christians have come to know through the witness of the Holy Spirit that Christ is the Savior. They have experienced his saving power and just as John, they have a mission. Their mission is to bear witness to Jesus Christ and through that witness bring people to accept Jesus as the Savior and place their trust in him!

Williams is pastor, First, Gautier.

Paul explains justification by faith

By R. Raymond Lloyd
Galatians 3:4-6, 11-14, 24-29; 4:6-9

Our passage is perhaps the clearest exposition of the doctrine of justification by faith alone to be found in the New Testament. Paul opens



Lloyd

the chapter with a rebuke ("O foolish Galatians": "senseless" — Moffatt; "stupid" — NEB), followed by an impressive series of rhetorical questions through which he appeals to their own personal experience by which they received the Spirit.

Experience an evidence of faith 3:1-5. Verse 5 is a recapitulation of the first four verses, and intensifies the meaning of verse 2 which in essence has asked: "How did you become a Christian — by works, or by faith?" Now they have experienced the Spirit by faith, and there were numerous manifestations of such. Miracles was one of them — the miracles God was working "in" them, namely moral and spiritual transformation. How did this all come to pass — by works or faith? Their experience confirmed that the gift of the Holy Spirit and his attendant miracles in the lives of the Galatians came from no other

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source than God himself through faith.

Paul then directs their attention to one who demonstrated that truth, Abraham (vs. 6). The seven references to Abraham in verses 6-18 would be strong testimony to the Judaizers who looked on him as the "righteous man par excellence." How did he become righteous? Paul quotes Genesis 15:6 and reaffirms that God credited Abraham with righteousness, conforming to the norm of God, solely by faith. In the verses that follow he further argues that only those of like faith are the genuine sons of Abraham and therefore inheritors of the divine blessing.

The curse of the law 3:11-14. Having demonstrated that a life regulated by faith results in blessing, now Paul argues that a life regulated by obedience to the law, results in a curse. Barclay depicts Paul's line of reasoning well. "First . . . if he chooses the law, he has to live by the law. Second . . . no man ever has, and no man ever will succeed in always keeping . . . the law. Third, if that is so then you are accursed" (cf. Deut. 27:26). Paul then quotes Habakkuk 2:4 and affirms that the attitude of

steadfast trust is the only way to get into a right relationship with God.

In verse 13, Paul abruptly brings the work of Christ to bear on those whose disobedience to the law has brought them under its curse. In his death Christ took the curse of the law upon himself (cf. Deut. 21:23) and "redeemed us" (delivered by payment of a price, i.e. for a slave). Why? So that "the blessing of Abraham" (justification by faith) might come to the Gentiles, and that "we" (Jews and Gentiles) might receive the promise of the Spirit (already have such, cf. 3:2). Paul could never forget that his blessings of a right relationship with God came at a costly price — the life and death of Jesus. Nor should we. There is no other way.

The coming of faith 3:24-29. But the law did have a purpose. It was to be a "schoolmaster" (vs. 24 — pedagogue — not used of a teacher, but usually a reference to an old slave entrusted with the moral training and safety of a child). Paul is no doubt referring to the moral restraints imposed by the law "until Christ came" (NEB). Vaughn notes two purposes in calling the law "our pedagogue": the disciplinary nature of the law and the inferior condition of those under the law — children who had not yet matured.

This was "before faith" (vss 23-24). Now he describes life "after faith" (vss. 25-29). One is

not under a pedagogue, but all are "sons of God!" Note Paul's emphasis on "all." Jews and Gentiles alike — no superiors and inferiors — have dignity and privileges of being mature sons of God. As such they are baptized "into Christ," and put "on Christ." Both emphasize the closeness of the believer's relation to Christ.

The result of this for the church is that there is no difference between any of its members (vs. 28). Distinctions of ethnic background, social standing and sexuality have no place in the Christian community — then or now! Those who are in Christ are part of one great fellowship. Every church ought to be a living example of the power of Christ to create a "new humanity." It is antithetic to the gospel for any church to perpetuate the prejudices and inequities that have divided us one from another. If we are Christ's, then let us act like we are, and be "one in Christ Jesus."

Paul concludes by applying this to the Galatians. Once you were pagans in bondage to idols. Now you know the deliverance given by the true God. It is incredible to think the Galatians, or anyone else, experiencing sonship and heirship by the costly gift of God's son, should ever think of turning back to any other way of life, except the life of faith in, and faithfulness to, Jesus Christ.

Lloyd is pastor, First, Starkville.

"To be used by God, follow his leadership"

By Randall L. Von Kanel
Acts 8:4-8, 26-29, 39-40

The missions task depends on our response to the leadership of the Holy Spirit. All Christians are called by the Spirit to share in the



Von Kanel

world missions task, but the particulars of time and place are unique to the individual believer. Jesus said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23). Participation in the work of missions necessitates our following Jesus. The central truth of this lesson is that "willingness to follow God's leadership is essential as we carry out our missions task."

What a model for missions we find in the person of Philip, one of the seven "deacons" chosen in Acts 6! Philip knew both the indirect and the direct leadership of the Holy Spirit. He was faithful to both as he proclaimed the gospel to his world. Philip provides us with an example of what it means to follow the Lord no matter the circumstances.

LIFE AND WORK

A. Placed by God

In the opening of our focal passage (Acts 8:4), we find the background situation of Philip's Samaritan mission. Due to the intense persecution of believers following the death of Stephen, the early church constituency found themselves "scattered abroad." As seed thrown into the wind left to fall where they may, the witnesses of Jesus Christ were seeded into fertile soil throughout the Greco-Roman world. Rather than causing the demise of this heretical sect of Jesus followers, Saul had led the way in fanning the early sparks of Christianity into a roaring flame (8:1-4). God, though not to be accused of instigating the persecution, certainly used the hostile activity aimed at stopping the gospel to actually work for its further spread. Philip, along with the many other believers, took advantage of his dispersion and "went everywhere preaching the word" (v. 4b). No reference is made in these verses to indicate that Philip had a direct call to go to Samaria.

In verse 4, the passive, "they were scattered," refers to the believers going to the various locales and regions due to the severe persecution. God used the turmoil in Jerusalem to indirectly place believers according to his sovereign choosing. Philip was faithful to preach the gospel in Samaria. With word and deed, he was an effective evangelist among the people of that area (vv. 6-8). Surely, Philip was following the leadership of the Holy Spirit. He was faithful to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ wherever God placed him for ministry.

B. Led by God

In the midst of the revival activity of Samaria, Philip received a direct call of the Lord to go to a new place of service (8:26-29). The "angel of the Lord" interrupted Philip's successful Samaritan ministry to reassign him to the desert area of Gaza. Philip obeyed (v. 27a). Without questioning what would be to us a strange mission strategy, he immediately endeavored to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit (Note that "angel of the Lord" and "Spirit" are used interchangeably in the passage.). He was to leave the successful ministry among the multitudes of Samaria and go to the barren, unpopulated Gaza strip. The Spirit's leading in our lives is to be followed. As

with Philip, that leadership will take us to someone who needs Jesus. The Ethiopian eunuch, a powerful man in the courts of the ancient kingdom of Ethiopia, was also a searching man (vv. 27-28). Philip found him searching in the Old Testament prophecies of Isaiah for answers to his questions about God. Once again responding to the direct leadership of the Spirit, Philip intervened and witnessed to the man about Jesus (vv. 29-38).

C. Used by God

Having been led by the Spirit, Philip was used by God to lead the Ethiopian eunuch to Jesus. Verses 38-39 record the eunuch's baptism and his joy in a newborn faith. Philip is "caught away." In verse 40, Luke noted that "Philip was found at Azotus," and passing through he preached in all the cities." Still following the Spirit's leading, Philip continued to be used by God in the world missions task of proclaiming the gospel. If we are to be used by God today in our missions calling, we must be sure to obey his leadership. The writer of Proverbs said it so well, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Von Kanel is pastor, First, Hattiesburg.

THE VILLAGE VIEW

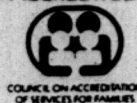


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Paul N. Nunnery, Executive Director

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Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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Mr. & Mrs. Bill C. Wilson
Robert W. Rawls
Mr. & Mrs. D. D. Farmer Sr.
Rosa Lee Read
Sunburst Bank

(To be continued)

HONORS

Mrs. W. B. Alexander, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Thigpen Jr.
Rev. & Mrs. James Allgood
Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Thigpen Jr.
Mrs. Louise Barton
Bethesda Baptist Church,
Crawford
Mrs. Barbara Bell
Bethesda Baptist Church,
Crawford
Mr. Alton Bounds
Bethesda Baptist Church,
Crawford
Mr. & Mrs. D. R. Bowen
Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Thigpen Jr.
Mrs. Willie Lou Lowery
Alathena Sunday School,
Collins BC
Mrs. Lewis Myers
Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Thigpen Jr.
Mrs. Homer Pittman
Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Thigpen Jr.
Mrs. Allen Puckett
Encourager Class, FBC
Columbus
Mrs. Mary Smith
Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Thigpen Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. J. B. Sturdivant
Mr. & Mrs. Curry Carroll
Mrs. Rufus Walt, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Thigpen Jr.
Mrs. Norman Wicker
Ruth Sunday School, FBC
Tupelo



Jim McCaskill, a member of Pine Lake Baptist Church in Rankin Association, is the owner of the "Two Sisters Kitchen" in downtown Jackson. During the months of October, November and December Jim is promoting The Baptist Children's Village ministry by donating 10 percent of the profits from their Friday night seafood buffet and from their Sunday noon buffet.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Lottie Moon is like a candy cane

By Lucille W. Bailey

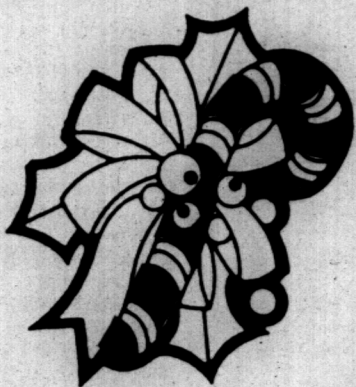
Today I want to ask you three questions:

1. What is your favorite candy?
 2. How much do you weigh?
 3. Could you eat your favorite candy bar, weighing as much as you do?
- I'm sure that would be hard to do. However, every year you eat your weight in sugar.

Sugar comes from sugar cane, beets, maple trees, grapes, corn, wood, and certain kinds of palm trees. Sugar was first taken from beets by a German scientist in 1747, and today 1/3 of the world's sugar comes from beets. Another German scientist developed a process for making sugar from wood. After the wood had been ground into sawdust, acid was applied and sugar was made. Sugar is pure and we can say, "It's the real thing."

This is the Lottie Moon Christmas season and I want us to compare a candy cane to Miss Moon.

We get the shape of a candy cane from the shepherd's crook and the shape of the crook is a symbol of ser-



vice. Now take Miss Moon and think about her usefulness. She wrote thousands of letters urging people to give to missions; she made hundreds of speeches trying to get people interested in missions; she taught school; she was a missionary. There are many other things you could say about Miss Moon to show that she too was a symbol of usefulness.

The red in the cane is for sacrifice and no one has sacrificed more than

did Miss Moon. She sacrificed her family, friends, a marriage, children, a home, money. In fact, she sacrificed her life by sharing food with the starving Chinese.

The white is for purity and when Lottie Moon read from the Bible that she was to "be an example of purity" she knew that she was representing the most pure person who ever lived, Jesus Christ. She wanted the people in China to know her Saviour.

The aroma of the cane also makes us aware of the cleanness of the life of Miss Moon.

According to the legend of the candy cane, a cane is supposed to be broken and shared. Miss Moon shared her life with the people of China, and we can share in her memory by giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. She shared her all. How much will be share at Christmas, 1989?

At the beginning, I said, "Sugar is the real thing." I can also add that Miss Moon was the real thing.

Mrs. Bailey lives at State Line.

WORD SEARCH: COUNTRIES

Find the hidden mission words in this letter block. All relate to foreign mission fields. Words may appear forward, backward, up, down or diagonally. The same letter may be a part of more than one word. Circle each word as you find it. Solution appears on page 10.

Words appearing in the letter block:

ARGENTINA	MACAO
BAHAMAS	MALAWI
BELIZE	MEXICO
BRAZIL	NIGERIA
BURKINA FASO	PHILIPPINES
CHILE	PORTUGAL
COLOMBIA	SOUTH KOREA
COSTA RICA	SURINAME
GHANA	TAIWAN
GUATEMALA	TANZANIA
HONDURAS	VENEZUELA
JORDAN	ZAMBIA
KENYA	ZIMBABWE
LIBERIA	

CGHUVGJOPMEWADIFLESC
 OBEREOAHRWLLLLNAOATR
 NRZZIMBABWEIDTHELI IW
 GAAAIIRYAZZBBLAANNPP
 JIXMLLBAQACEEKMRIAHH
 BBRBREERRKLRIEAGDZII
 UMYIPEWBSASITYEQPNLL
 WORALBAIUOXANRKLPAID
 LLRILHCWARUEIIQSTTPO
 OOHARWAKGKAJORDANPV
 CCOMLEILAPIIJRNILPIC
 BOAEHGNARJXZNLWADFNA
 SSURINAMEXICOAXRTMEE
 ITGOTOMNWZQPNGFEEASX
 OARGOIMESDVAVUOARCTE
 RRV SARUDNOHHATBISAAR
 WITANITNEGRAVRHINOON
 CCILEALSOUTHKOREAGHB
 LALEUZENEVSIOPRHAKNM
 GK LADSFJPIMNEWRYCXAQ



A homing pigeon can fly at a speed of up to 60 miles an hour over a distance of 75 miles.



King Louis XVI popularized the cultivation of potatoes in France by wearing potato flowers in his buttonhole.

The water present on earth today is the same water that was formed with the planet itself. The amount of water cannot be increased or decreased. Yet, while 75 percent of the earth's surface is covered with water, less than one percent is fresh water and less than three percent of that is usable for humans in its natural state.



The deepest fresh-water lake in the world is Lake Baikal: 5,712 feet.

Lottie Moon is for kids, too

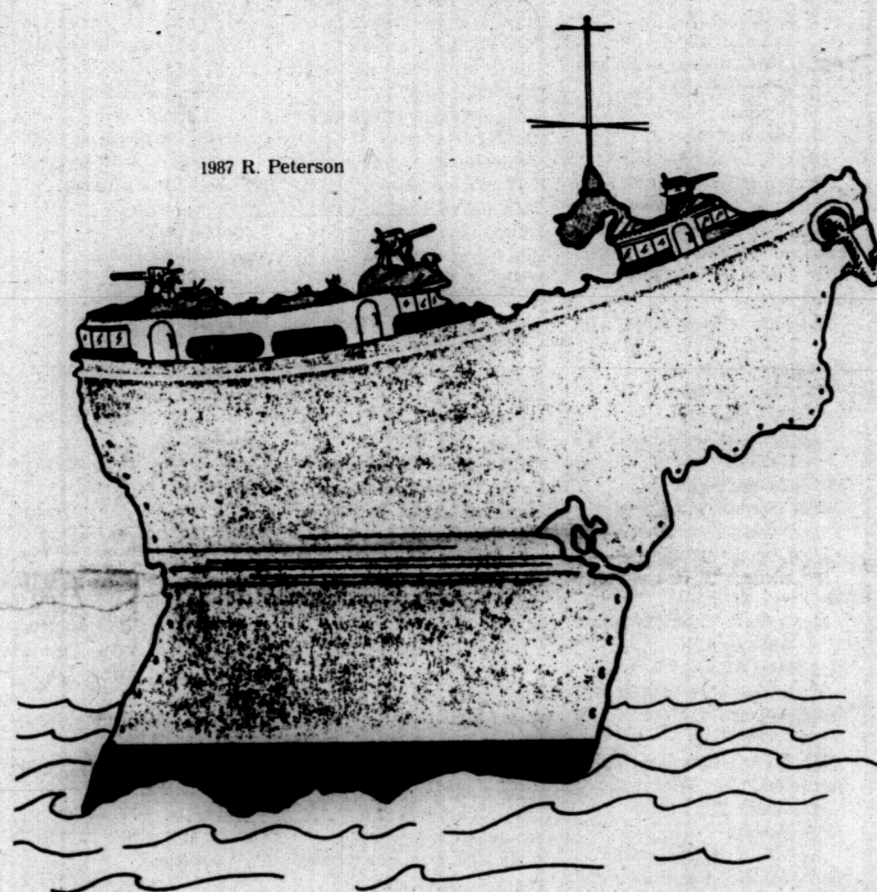
Is the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering only for adults in the United States to support? The MKs at Yemen Baptist Mission in Jibla, Yemen, say no! For the third consecutive year the MKs have conducted the Autumn Fair. Says Tracy Thomas, an 11-year-old, "The Autumn Fair is a way for the kids to earn money to give to Lottie Moon." Tracy is the daughter of Bob and Beverly Thomas, Mississippi missionaries from Senatobia.

This year eight MKs participated in the preparation for the event. Work began at least two months ago as kids and adults alike started to work on the many crafts that were sold at the "silent auction." The day was a success as the international community at the Jibla Baptist Hospital participated in games, fellowship, and even camel rides.

Rebekah Provost, one of the MK co-ordinators, reported that \$805.00 was earned at the fair held Oct. 14. This money will be sent to the Foreign Mission Board, where it will join forces with the millions of dollars given by Southern Baptists to continue sharing the gospel of Christ.

GEOGRAFUN: (For Young Readers) Nations and Imaginations

By Ralph C. Peterson



A large U.S. naval base is located at Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu, one of the Hawaiian Islands. Pearl Harbor was attacked by the Japanese on December 7, 1941, starting World War II. Can you imagine a naval vessel in the map of Oahu? Color the picture.



Map of Oahu, Hawaii



The largest saguaro cacti, the common cactus of Mexican deserts and Western movies, are close to 200 years old, and weigh over ten tons.

Baptist Record

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November 30, 1989

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